



The Last Best West

IS

CANADA WEST

HOMES
FOR MILLIONS

GRAIN RAISING.
RANCHING.

FREE
160 ACRES
WESTERN
CANADA
FARM
LANDS

MIXED FARMING.
DAIRYING.

ISSUED BY DIRECTION OF HON. FRANK OLIVER MINISTER OF THE INTERIOR
OTTAWA, CANADA.

Farmers, farm labourers, railway construction men and female domestic servants are the only people the Canadian Immigration Department advise to come to Canada. All others should get definite assurance of employment in Canada before leaving home, and have money enough to support them for a time in case of disappointment.

W. W. CORY, Deputy Minister of the Interior, Ottawa, Canada.

W. D. SCOTT, Superintendent of Immigration, Ottawa, Canada.

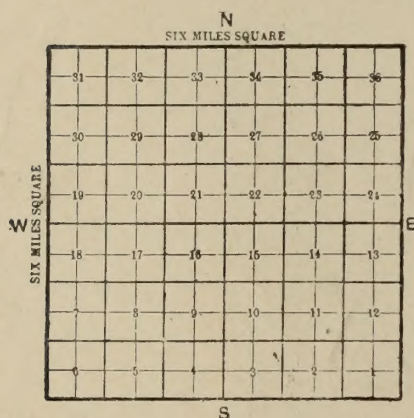
DOMINION LAND OFFICES:

J. OBED SMITH, Commissioner of Immigration, Winnipeg, Man.

DISTRICT	NAME OF AGENT	POST OFFICE ADDRESS
Battleford.....	L. P. O. Noel.....	Battleford, Saskatchewan.
Brandon.....	L. J. Clement.....	Brandon, Manitoba
Calgary.....	J. R. Sutherland.....	Calgary, Alberta
Dauphin.....	F. K. Herchmer.....	Dauphin, Manitoba
Estevan.....	A. C. Kisbey.....	Estevan, Saskatchewan
Edmonton.....	A. Norquay (acting).....	Edmonton, Alberta
Lethbridge.....	J. Stafford (acting).....	Lethbridge, Alberta
Humboldt.....	G. L. Dempster.....	Humboldt, Saskatchewan
Prince Albert.....	R. S. Cook.....	Prince Albert, Saskatchewan

DISTRICT	NAME OF AGENT	POST OFFICE ADDRESS
Red Deer.....	W. H. Cottingham.....	Red Deer, Alberta
Regina.....	L. Rankin.....	Regina, Saskatchewan
Swift Current.....	Business transacted at Moose Jaw	
Wetaskiwin.....	Business transacted at Edmonton	
Winnipeg.....	E. F. Stephenson.....	Winnipeg, Manitoba
Yorkton.....	P. E. Peaker.....	Yorkton, Saskatchewan
Moose Jaw.....	John Rutherford.....	Moose Jaw, Saskatchewan
Kamloops.....	A. B. Currie.....	Kamloops, B.C.
New Westminster.....	John McKenzie.....	New Westminster, B.C.

THE FOLLOWING IS A PLAN OF A TOWNSHIP.



Each square contains 640 acres; each quarter-section contains 160 acres.

A section contains 640 acres and forms one mile square.

Government Lands open for homestead (that is for free settlement) —Section Nos. 2, 4, 6, 10, 12, 14, 16, 18, 20, 22, 24, 28, 30, 32, 34, 36.

Railway Lands for sale (Subsidies for Construction) —Section Nos. 1, 3, 5, 7, 9, 13, 15, 17, 19, 21, 23, 25, 27, 31, 33, 35.

School Sections. —Section Nos. 11 and 29 are reserved by Government for

school purposes.

Hudson Bay Company's Land for sale—Sections Nos. 8 and 26.

Any even-numbered section of Dominion land in Manitoba or the Northwest Territories, excepting 8 and 26, which has not been homesteaded, reserved to provide wood lots for settlers, or for other purposes, may be homesteaded upon by any person who is the sole head of a family, or any male over eighteen years of age, to the extent of one-quarter section of 160 acres, more or less.

ENTRY.

Entry must be made in person, either at the land office for the district or at the office of a sub-agent authorized to transact business in the district, except in the case of a person who may make entry for a father, mother, son, daughter, brother or sister, when duly authorized by the prescribed form.

HOMESTEAD DUTIES.

Under the present law homestead duties must be performed in one of the following ways, namely:

1. By at least six months residence upon and cultivation of the land in each year during the term of three years.

2. If the father (or the mother, if the father is deceased) of any person who is eligible to make a homestead entry resides upon a farm in the vicinity of the land entered by such person as a homestead, the requirements of the law as to residence prior to obtaining patent may be satisfied by such person residing with the father or mother.

3. If the settler has his permanent residence upon farming land owned by him in the vicinity of his homestead, the requirements of the law as to residence may be satisfied by residence upon the said land.

A woman may take up a homestead if she have minor children dependent upon her for support.

Six months' time is given in which to perfect entry or begin duties upon the homestead.

APPLICATION.

Should be made at the end of the three years before the Local Agent, Sub-Agent, or the Homestead Inspector. Before making application for patent the settler is expected to give six months' notice in writing to the Commissioner of Dominion Lands at Ottawa, of his intentions to do so.

Before leaving his homestead, the settler should leave a post-office address at which he can obtain his letters while away. If he is not careful he may overstay the time allowed, and find on his return that his homestead entry has been cancelled and taken up by some one else.

If anything goes wrong as to time and absence, he may lose his land, and at any rate is pretty sure to be compelled to make a fresh entry.

Newly arrived immigrants will receive at the Immigration office in Winnipeg, or at any Dominion land office, or Department of Interior, Ottawa, Canada, information as to the lands that are open for entry, and from the officers in charge, free of expense, advice and assistance in securing lands to suit them.

CENTRAL CANADA

In a country over one thousand miles in length and nearly five hundred wide, there will naturally be many conditions of climate, soil, and topography. This is the case in Central Canada. There may be dissimilarities, yet all parts offer inducements, according to the desire of the settler.

Central Canada comprises the provinces of Manitoba, Alberta and Saskatchewan. Some of the northern districts might be included, but these are in a measure inaccessible to settlement at present; yet even there excellent yields of grain have been produced and successfully harvested—striking collateral evidence of the favouring climatic conditions in the districts farther south.

MANITOBA.

Manitoba was the sphere of the pioneering efforts in Central Canada's immigration and what it has accomplished is now being repeated in the country to the west, where equal success is rewarding the efforts of the tillers of the soil. In 1870, when Manitoba entered the Confederation, it had only 17,000 inhabitants; to-day its population is 400,000, largely English speaking. Then its agricultural production found no place in the records, in 1881 it was credited as producing 1,000,000 bushels of wheat on an acreage of 51,300, and 1,270,268 bushels of oats. The remarkable increases in acreage and yield from 1902 to 1905 are shown in table elsewhere. In 1905 the acreage was 2,643,588. The yield at twenty-seven points varied from fifteen to thirty-five bushels and made 21.07 as a general average, making a total yield of 55,761,416 bushels. With wheat at 60 cents, oats at 40 cents, and barley at 50 cents per bushel, these crops made \$58,682,471 for the 45,000 farmers, or over \$1,300 each. But with wheat at \$1.00 a bushel and over, as it is at the time of writing, an excessive yield is not necessary to have the bank account balance heavily on the right side.

The 1907 crop has been harvested and thrashed, and is now being marketed. Owing to the late season throughout Western Canada, as elsewhere on the continent, it will be impossible for some time to quote figures showing the average yield. Enough is known now, though, to give the assurance that the crop will bring more money to the farmers than in many years past. Some of the wheat that was sown in June

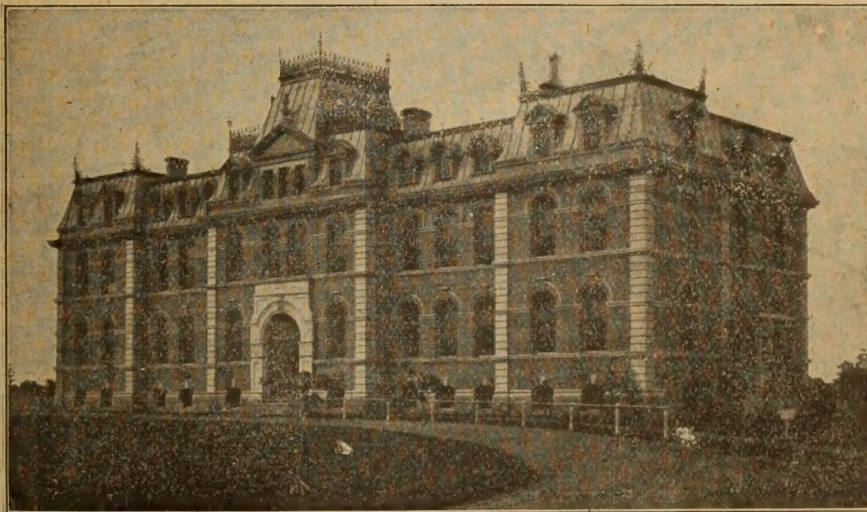
was late in ripening, and those who would attempt to force conditions to that extent anywhere would not expect to harvest contract grade.

During the winter of 1904-05, 17,941 head of cattle were fattened and the number of milch cows in the Province was 132,684, attributable to the growing interest taken in dairying. The dairy produce for 1904 was valued at \$768,547, and that of 1905 \$896,937, the cheese output being \$127,346, and the butter \$769,591. In 1906, the output of butter was \$1,182,502, and that of cheese \$195,244.

A gentleman thoroughly conversant with conditions in Manitoba for many years said: "The rich soil and favourable climatic conditions are a bank account upon which not more than a portion of the interest is being drawn; only when 20 million acres are actually cropped shall we realize what the account to our credit is; about 5 million acres are now under cultivation. Lands can still be purchased at from \$5.00 to \$40 an acre, according to quality and location. Resident farmers, whose lands are valued at from \$15

to \$40 an acre, are realizing a revenue from the same equal to seven per cent. on an investment of more than double this value."

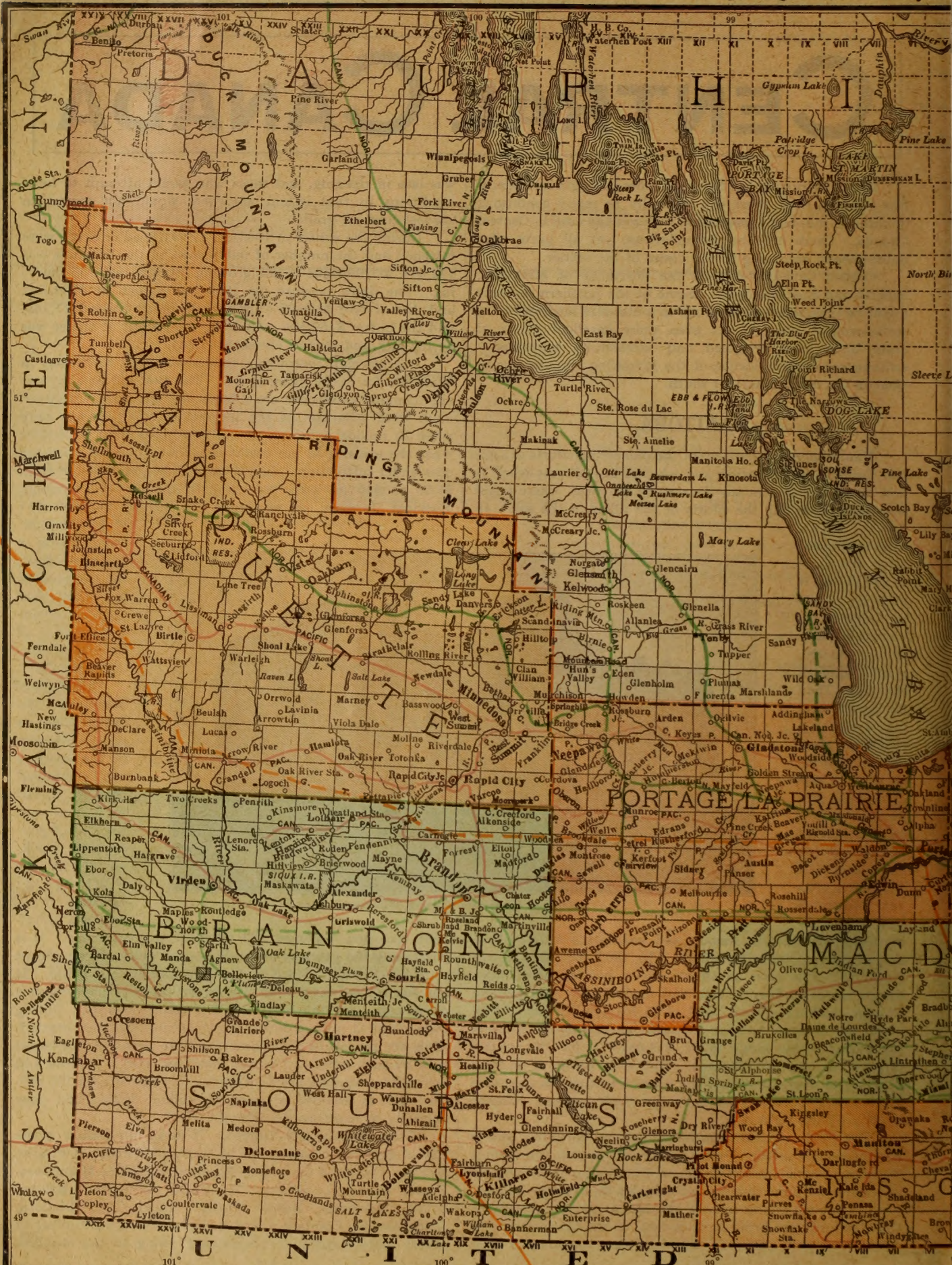
The City of Winnipeg. No better idea of the prosperity of the country can be obtained than by a visit to Winnipeg, the seat of government. Spoken of as the "Chicago of Canada," it occupies a promi-



Manitoba Parliament Building, Winnipeg.

nent position amongst the cities of the continent. It is practically the gateway of the West, and a city of magnificent promise, giving evidence of a strong and strenuous life. It has electric railways, wide streets, well-kept boulevards, fine pavements, and the best of other improvements. During 1905 about 11 million dollars worth of buildings were erected, while the records of 1906 showed a large increase, surpassed only by such cities as Chicago and New York. Jobbing and mercantile interests are flourishing. Population over 100,000. The city is assessed at over 55 million dollars and pays annually in taxes nearly \$900,000.

Cities, Towns, and Villages. Next in importance is the city of Brandon followed by the towns of Portage la Prairie, Morden, Carberry, Neepawa, Manitou, Dauphin, Minnedosa, Birtle, Emerson, Gretna, Wawanessa, Somerset, Baldur, Souris, Deloraine, Melita, Virden, Rapid City, Hamiota, Gladstone, St. Boniface, Carman, Killarney, and a number of others rapidly rising in prominence owing to the stability



given them by the surrounding agricultural districts. Each has its elevators, mills, and warehouses to accommodate the large quantities of wheat marketed. Scores of towns now developing will make business openings for such as desire them.

Profits to be Realized. Areas under wheat have given a clear profit of over \$12 an acre. It is conceded that all the labour of ploughing, seeding, harvesting, and marketing can be hired done at \$7.50 per acre. Even allowing \$8.00 it is a poor year that will not yield a handsome margin over this. Cases could be cited this year, where the wheat crop will yield \$35 an acre. There would thus be a margin of profit of \$27 an acre. Farmers thus rest assured that their lands will rise in value from year to year, a fact which sets a premium on farsightedness and enterprise as well as upon industry. It is estimated that the money realized from the crop of 1907, on account of high prices, will be as great as last year.

Mixed Farming Pays. Grain growing has given Manitoba agriculture prominence in the eyes of the world, but the leaven of mixed farming is gradually and surely permeating the minds of farmers. There is scarcely a farmer but has his herd of cattle or his flock of sheep. His hogs are fattening for market, and poultry proves valuable as a source of revenue. All these commodities are required to supply daily wants. Prices of these may fluctuate, but never can a farmer become ruinously overstocked with any one or more of them.

along the line of the Canadian Northern Railway. There are about 1½ million acres of lands available for free homesteading.

GROWTH OF MANITOBA.

	1881	1891	1901	1906
Population.....	62,260	152,506	255,211	365,000
Horses.....	16,739	86,735	163,867	215,189
Horned cattle.....	39,926	147,984	208,405	521,512
Milch Cows.....	20,355	82,712	141,481	170,143
Sheep.....	6,073	35,838	29,464	28,975
Swine.....	17,358	54,177	126,459	200,509

Rainfall—Water and Fuel. It is not a country of deep snows; trains are rarely blocked and seldom delayed by winter storms. The annual precipitation is 21.4 inches; mean annual temperature at Winnipeg, 32.7°; January, 5.2°; July, 66.1°. The country is everywhere, at easy distances, intersected by creeks and rivers, and there are many lakes, especially in the northern portion. Water can be secured almost anywhere by sinking wells to a moderate depth. The western coal fields and the timbered districts of the north, south, and east will supply fuel for hundreds of years.

Schools and Churches. The Province has its university, colleges, and schools. Schools are free and known as the National System. The Government gives large grants, reducing the charge on the ratepayers to a nominal figure.



Another Illustration of Mixed Farming in Central Canada. The Horses, Cattle, Sheep, and Poultry Help to Increase the Farmers' Profits.

Stockers. Ever-increasing demand for stockers for the ranches gives an impetus to cattle raising, and for many years Manitoba will supply them. Manitoba farmers provide the necessary winter shelter, and the immense crop of coarse grains and fodder, so easily raised, supplies the necessary food for all stock under shelter. It is only a question of time until, with an enlarged supply of farm help, more attention will be directed to the winter feeding of fat cattle.

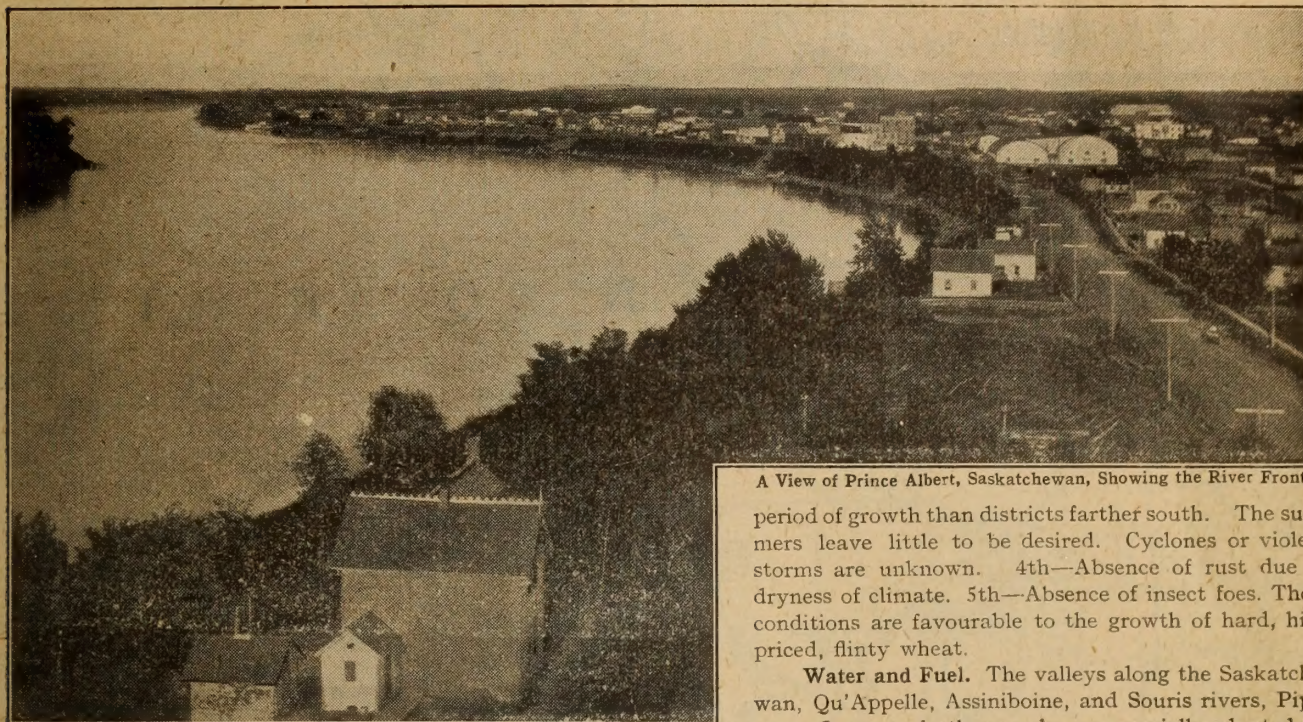
The Homeseeker's Opportunity. People with means, and those satisfied with existing conditions, as a rule do not move, and it follows that the settlers of Manitoba have not brought large bank accounts with them. The man who has continued farming there for from six to ten years, is in circumstances which many farmers in other countries have been unable to reach after a lifetime of toil. The labourer is happy and contented, only waiting for an opportunity to get a farm of his own and become as independent as his employer. With a farm free from debt, fields of ripening grain ready for harvest, herds of cattle on his pasture lands, flocks of sheep, dairy and poultry providing the household with groceries and many other comforts, schools for his children, churches close at hand, and social advantages within easy reach—what more is required for a wholesome existence? Homesteads are to be obtained on the outskirts of present settlements east of the Red River and between Lakes Winnipeg and Manitoba, as well as west of Lake Manitoba, and in the newly opened districts

One-eighteenth of the land is set apart for school purposes. Churches are in all the new settlements, and missionaries of various denominations keep pace with settlement, sometimes anticipating it. Some of the church edifices are among the best on the continent. Strict observance of the Sabbath is a marked feature in all Canada. All the leading fraternal societies are represented—in the hamlet of a few dozen persons or in the city with its thousands.

Law and Order. The laws are reasonable, and there is little difficulty in their maintenance, owing to the law-abiding character of the population and to the fact that no favouritism of any kind is permitted or indulged in.

Notes on Manitoba. The Province has 30 million acres of arable land, and so far about one-sixth is under cultivation. In 1905, there were 4,759,646 bushels of potatoes raised, and 3,481,651 of roots. In the same year the farmers sold 40,009 turkeys, 60,759 geese, and 521,325 chickens. There was a large increase in 1907. In 1906, new farm buildings to the value of \$3,944,101 were erected.

Railroads. The development of railways has been great, but so rapid has been settlement that it was impossible to provide trackage fast enough, and in many sections settlement frequently preceded railway construction. This applies now to some of the northern districts to which attention is being given. The Canadian Pacific—the pioneer road, (the main line passing directly east and west through



A View of Prince Albert, Saskatchewan, Showing the River Front.

the Province on its way from the Atlantic to the Pacific)—has branches from Winnipeg, Portage la Prairie, Macgregor, and Brandon. Some extend north and northwest, and others south and southwest. Main line and branches pass through splendid agricultural districts. The Canadian Northern's eastern terminus is at Port Arthur. It has done much in opening up new settlements in the north and south. The main line passes through Winnipeg and Portage la Prairie, and then northwesterly to the Saskatchewan boundary. Several branches pass through lands which, in their wealth of agriculture, give a large amount of freight. The Grand Trunk Pacific has its through line, which, with numerous branches in contemplation, will prove valuable in relieving the freight congestion unavoidable in a country having the rapid and great development of Manitoba. The Great Northern's Brandon and Portage la Prairie branches make the fourth distinct system. Every district is thoroughly reached, and there are few farms in the settled parts that are more than ten or fifteen miles from a line of railway.

SASKATCHEWAN.

The greater part of the 159,038,720 acres in this Province can be utilized in the several branches of mixed farming. Its southwestern corner lies in the great ranching belt; the greater portion of its southern two-thirds is situated in the great wheat-growing area.

Southeastern Saskatchewan.

The eastern portion, for some 120 miles west from the eastern boundary, is a continuation of the grain-growing areas of Manitoba. The soil is the same friable loam, easily worked, producing excellent crops of wheat, coarse grains, and vegetables. The winter climate answers all requirements, as to degree of cold and sufficiency of snowfall, for the production of the No. 1 hard wheat for which Central Canada is noted. The reasons this is one of the greatest wheat-producing sections of the American continent, are: 1st—The soil is rich in the food of the wheat plant. 2d—It has a climate that brings the plant to maturity with great rapidity. 3rd—On account of its northern latitude it receives more sunshine during the

period of growth than districts farther south. The summers leave little to be desired. Cyclones or violent storms are unknown. 4th—Absence of rust due to dryness of climate. 5th—Absence of insect foes. These conditions are favourable to the growth of hard, high priced, flinty wheat.

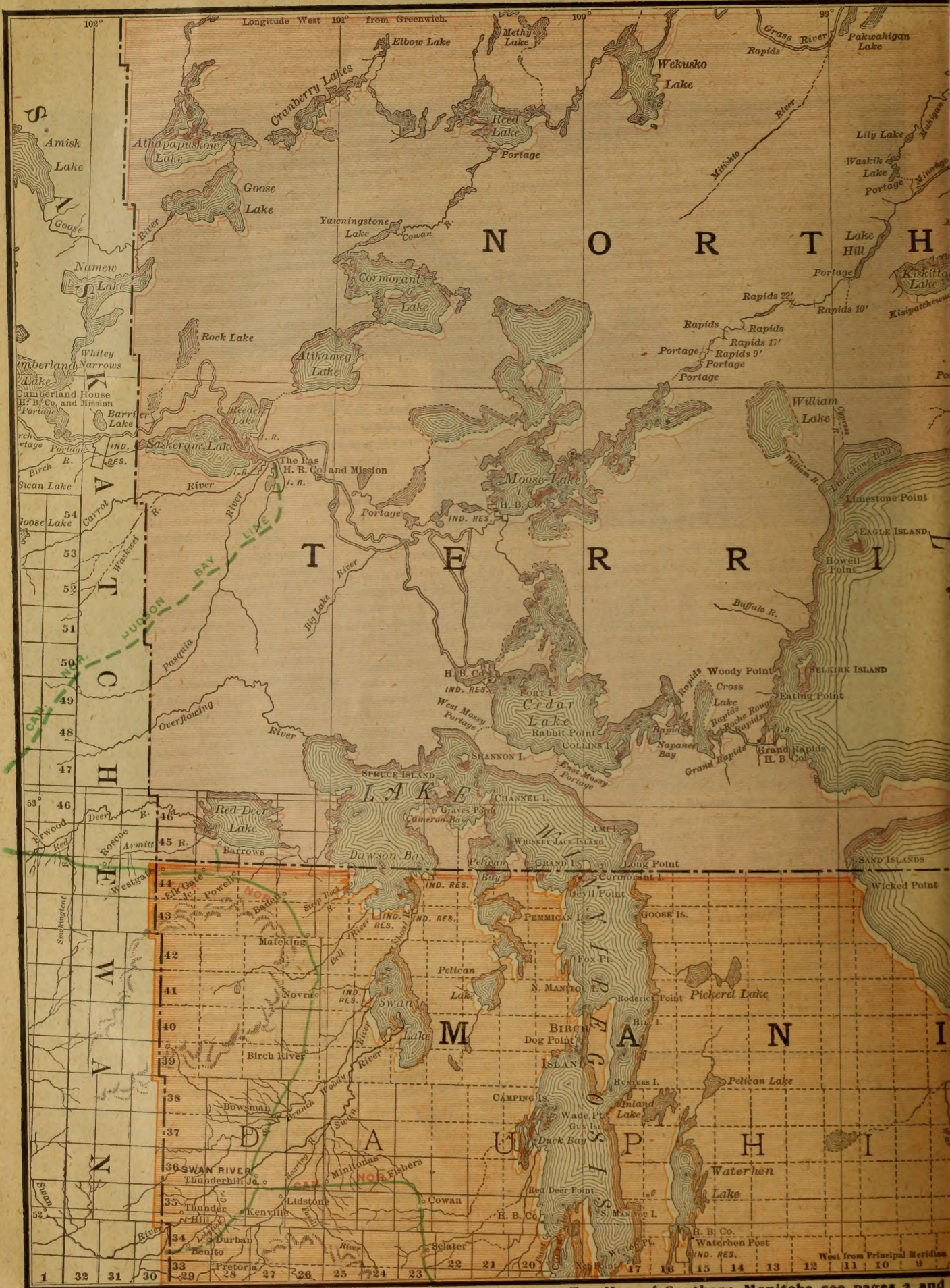
Water and Fuel. The valleys along the Saskatchewan, Qu'Appelle, Assiniboine, and Souris rivers, Pipestone, Long, and other creeks, are specially adapted for mixed farming, and the open prairie beyond possesses large areas for grazing or grain growing. In most parts good water can be obtained at reasonable depth. Coal in abundance is found in the south, in the district drained by the Souris. There is sufficient wood for all purposes along the rivers and in the Moose mountains. Near Yorkton begins the change from the wooded areas of Manitoba to the great plains region of Saskatchewan. In many places the country is park-like, with alternating groves of poplar and willow, and open prairie.

Some of the Districts. The districts of Moosomin and Qu'Appelle lie in the great fertile belt, and the lands are no less fertile than the famous wheat-growing plains of Manitoba. The soil is a loam, covered with twelve to eighteen inches of black vegetable mould, which after the second ploughing makes a fine seed-bed, easy to work and most productive. These remarks apply to all the eastern part of the district. The Beaver and Touchwood hills in the northern part are well adapted for stock raising and mixed farming. Davidson, Lumsden, Craik, Girvin, Hanley, and Dundurn (thriving towns on the Regina-Prince Albert branch) are peopled mostly by those from the United States, many of whom, with commendable thrift and enterprise, have erected splendid buildings in the towns; others have developed the resources and increased the land values of the country districts, and heavy crops of wheat, oats, and barley are harvested. There are still many opportunities to acquire free land from the Government, and at reasonable prices from the railway and land companies. Extending back eastward and westward from the points named are large settlements.

Possibilities. The possibilities of southern Saskatchewan are shown by averages of tests made at the Experimental Farm. Eleven varieties of the most suitable wheat, sown on April 15th, cut in 130 days, yielded 4,314 pounds of straw and over 43 bushels of grain per acre.

Southwestern Saskatchewan.

What has been said of Southeastern applies to some portion of Southwestern Saskatchewan, starting at McLean station. The land around Regina, the capital of the Province, is rich and fertile to the south and to the north. In the vicinity of Halbrite, Weyburn, Yellow Grass, Estevan,



Lands; solid lines show surveyed lands.



Milestone, and Rouleau along the "Soo" Line, wheat raising is the important industry, and the yields are highly satisfactory. In the earlier history of this district, as in many others, the cultivation of flax was carried on to a considerable extent, and from the yield of the first crop many farmers paid the entire cost of the purchase price of their farms.

Between Regina and Moose Jaw the country is mostly occupied by prosperous farmers. At Moose Jaw and as far as Swift Current there are sections of country where grain raising as well as mixed farming is carried on. Moose Jaw, until recently thought to be the western limit of the wheat-growing area of Southwestern Saskatchewan, is now the centre of a large farming district. North and northwest towards the Saskatchewan there are large settlements of contented and prosperous farmers from the United States. Recent surveys south and southwest have opened a tract of land available for homesteads, and the establishment of a land office at Moose Jaw makes it easy to investigate the land and to secure speedy entry.

Ranching. West of Swift Current to the Alberta boundary, and south to the International boundary, very few farms are to be seen, and it is soon recognized that the ranching country has been reached. Great herds of range cattle roam over these seemingly boundless pastures; \$40 to \$50 per head has been paid on these ranges for steers that cost their owners only the interest on the original investment of stocking the ranch, and their share in the cost of the annual round-ups. The winters are mild, and the snowfall so light that cattle, horses, and sheep graze the entire year. There is successful cropping where irrigation has been effected by the construction of cheap ditches. The Swift Current region is everywhere thickly covered with a good growth of nutritious grasses—mostly of the short, crisp variety known as "buffalo grass." This becomes to all appearances dry, about mid-summer, but is still green and growing at the roots and forms excellent pasture both in winter and summer. Land has been taken up with the idea of raising the cereals, and considerable success is reported especially to the north towards the Saskatchewan. Settlers located south of Swift Current have been able to secure good lands both by homesteading and purchase. Maple Creek is important as a stock centre, the entire district being fit for ranching. It is a shipping point for large ranches to the south and west. Some of the best horses, cattle, and sheep in Central Canada are raised in this part. Grain growing is also receiving attention.

Fuel. There is a good supply of timber on the hills, and an abundance of fuel in the coal seams exposed in many of the

valleys. Most of the treeless portion is underlaid with coal. Settlers have thus an abundant supply of timber, suitable for house logs and fencing, and both coal and wood for fuel.

Climate. Southwestern Saskatchewan benefits from the chinook winds from the Pacific, which quickly remove much of the snow that falls during two or three winter months. This, with the rich growth of grass, has brought parts of this district into favour with cattle, sheep, and horse raisers.

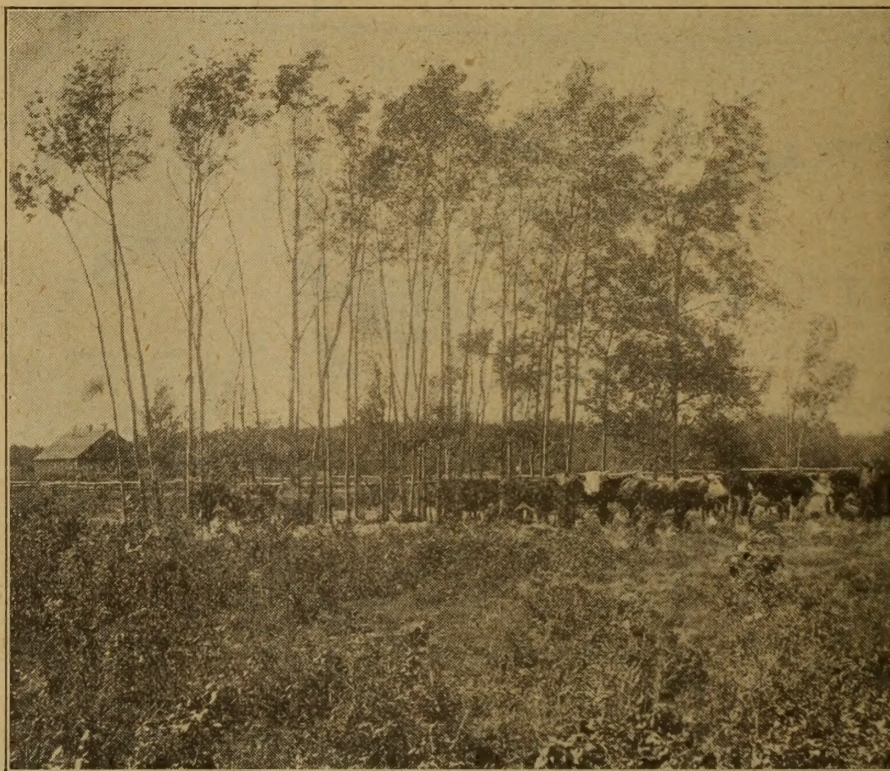
Railways. A glance at the map of Southern Saskatchewan shows what is being done in providing railway accommodation. The Canadian Pacific main line passes through the centre of the district. The splendid towns (every few miles apart) that fringe the track, and the rows of elevators at each, give some idea of the agricultural riches of the country through which the road passes. The same may be said of the branch lines, one of the most important of which is the line from Moose Jaw northwesterly to the Saskatchewan and on to Lacombe, in Alberta. Large areas of open prairie,

well fitted for agriculture in all its branches, make this line a prime necessity. Thousands of settlers occupying the vast country east of Last Mountain Lake required a railroad, and the Kirkella branch was built northwesterly to a junction point on the Wetaskiwin-Saskatoon-Winnipeg line. The Canadian Northern's Regina-Prince Albert branch is a southern feeder to its main line. The same company has completed a line from Brandon to Regina, thus giving an alternate route from Edmonton eastward.

The main line enters the Province at Togo, and there is not a mile of the land tributary to it that will not contribute largely to the revenue of the road. The Grand Trunk Pacific management spent large sums of money before deciding upon the location of its line through Saskatchewan. It enters the Province on the east at a point about one hundred miles north of the International boundary and goes diagonally across the Province, paralleling the Canadian Pacific northern line for some distance, and as a result much land is now passing into the hands of the farmer settlers, at reasonable prices. A great number from the United States have taken up farms all through this district, and wonderful development is shown.

Central Saskatchewan.

This portion of the Province is almost centrally divided by the main Saskatchewan River—which is altogether within the district—and by its principal branch, the North Saskatchewan—most of the navigable length of which lies within its boundaries. It includes, in the south, a small proportion of the great plains, and in its general superficial features is



In the Park Districts of Central Canada is to be Found Excellent Pasturage for Cattle.

Mixed prairie and wooded region, abounding in water and natural hay, and well suited by climate and soil for the raising of grain, cattle, and sheep. Generally, the surface is gently undulating prairie, with lakes and ponds, rolling prairie interspersed with bluffs of poplar, and high, rolling country, portions being heavily timbered with spruce and pine.

Rivers. The Saskatchewan has an immense network of tributaries watering an extensive territory. It is formed by the confluence of two forks—one rising in the Rocky Mountains, a hundred miles north of the International boundary, the other in the same range farther north. It is navigable, and plays an important part in transportation.

Free Homesteads. Railroad building throughout the district has made settlement general, and it is difficult to point out any section having special advantages over another. In great measure, that which may be said of one applies equally to the others. A great area of the best land is open for free homesteading. The crops consist of wheat, oats, barley, potatoes, turnips, and all kinds of vegetables. The normal yield of wheat (Red Fyfe) is about thirty bushels to the acre in favourable seasons; of oats, about sixty. There has never been a failure of crops. In addition to the produce exported, settlers enjoy a steady home market, realizing good prices. Wild fruits of nearly every variety—strawberry, raspberry, gooseberry, blueberry, cranberry, and black currants—grow in profusion. Small game is plentiful. The roads throughout the district are splendid.

Lands for Sale. In addition to the land to be homesteaded, adjoining land may be purchased from land companies. Those of the Canadian Pacific and Canadian Northern, especially selected for their adaptability to grain raising, mixed farming, and ranching, are for sale at reasonable prices and liberal terms to settlers. Prices range, for unimproved land, from \$8 to \$12 per acre and upwards, according to locality. In many instances, farmers have paid for their holdings out of a single crop.

Climate. The climate is healthful and bracing. The summer temperature is equable, averaging about 60°. Spring opens early in April. Seeding is generally completed in May, and harvest usually begins about the third week in August. During winter, settlers are generally employed in getting out fuel, rails for fencing, and logs for building purposes, in marketing their grain, and in caring for stock.

Stock Raising. The country is well adapted for stock

raising, and large shipments are made annually. Cattle must be fed and sheltered three to four months every winter. In many parts horses winter out well, and can, therefore, be kept in large bands. Sheep require the same care as cattle, and do better in small flocks.

Dairy Farming. The district answers all the requirements for dairy farming as well as grain raising. South of the Saskatchewan, conditions are most suitable, owing to the luxuriance of the grass and abundance of springs. A plentiful supply of pure water and the coolness of the nights favour dairying. The home demand is now and always has been large, so that dairy products command good prices.

Soil, Water and Fuel. The soil ranges from clay loam to sandy loam, with rich chocolate-colored clay to sandy subsoil. The country is well watered. Not everyone can locate on the banks of a running stream, but in most districts a plentiful supply of good water can be had by digging a few feet for it. To the north there are bluffs or groves of spruce and pine, and with the miles of outcropping coal, and the forests on the North Saskatchewan, an ample supply of cheap fuel and building material is assured.

Development. The tide of immigration to the Province has been increasing year by year, as the country has become better known, and its development has received a considerable impulse with the spread of railway communication and the greater facility thus afforded for marketing produce.

Towns. The town of Prince Albert, on the north branch of the Saskatchewan, is the seat of various industries, and has a valuable asset in the surrounding agricultural country, with its wonderful yields of grain. Battleford, North Battleford, Rosthern, and

Lloydminster will be among the distributing points for settlement for some time. There are several important towns in Central Saskatchewan, along the line of the Canadian Northern, and along that portion of the Grand Trunk Pacific passing through the district, several are now coming into existence. The Battleford district possesses many advantages, settlers having occupied lands and farmed there successfully for twenty or twenty-five years. Although over a hundred miles from a railway, they succeeded wonderfully. With railroads now passing through the district, this section is filling rapidly. Homesteads are plentiful at the present time, both north and south, but are in great demand.

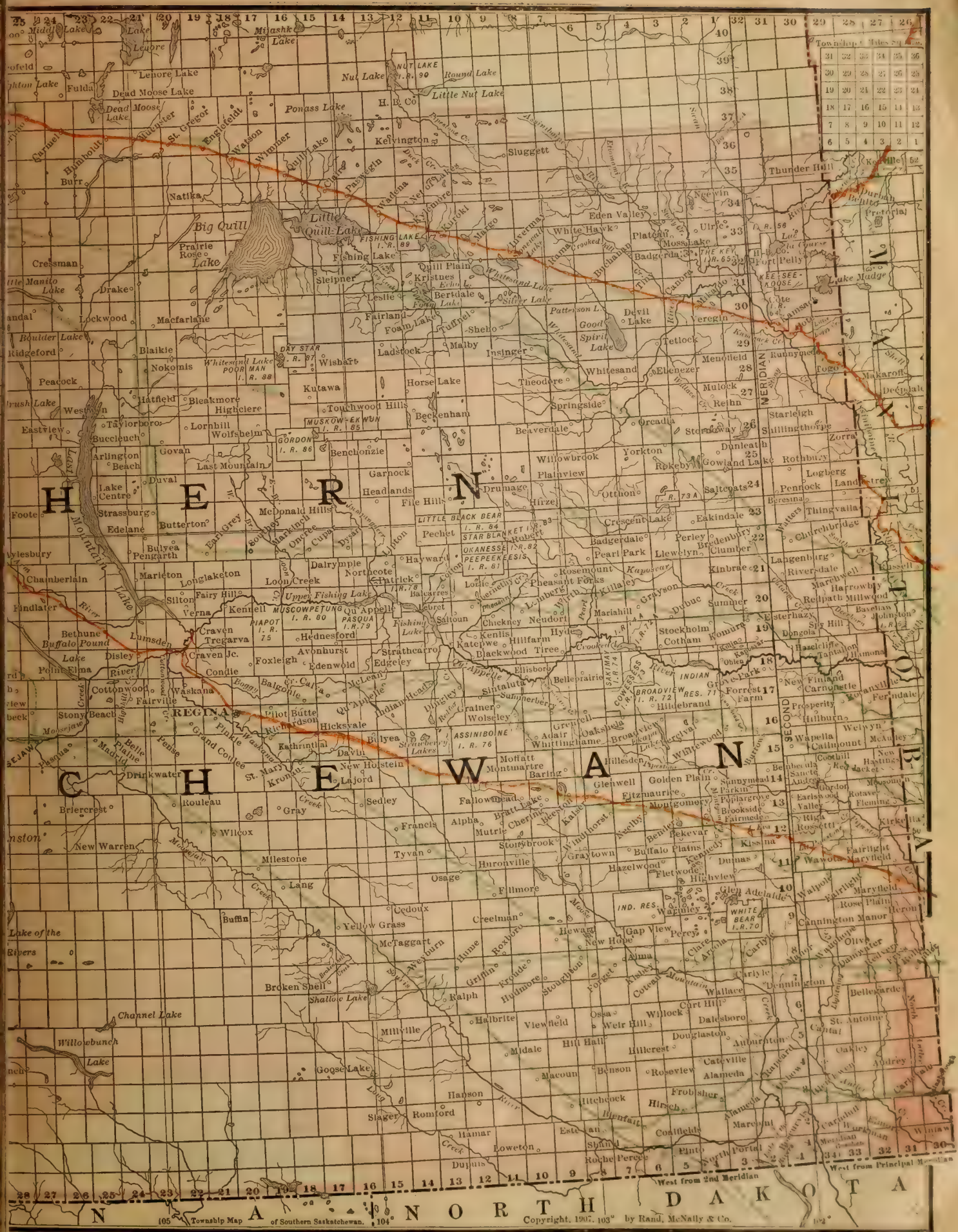
Moisture. Moisture is ample, the precipitation being about eighteen inches annually; about 75 per cent of the rainfall is during the crop months. Rain coming when needed and sunshine daily during the growing season, are reasons why crops mature quickly and yield bountifully.

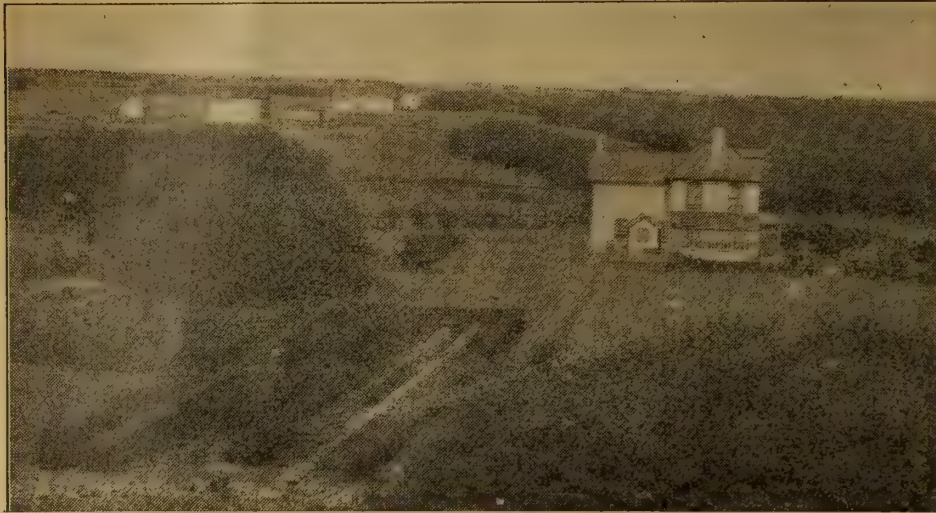
Winter Wheat. Experiments have been made with winter wheat in this district, and with gratifying results. In



Typical Farm Homes in Central Canada, Selected from Scenes in Manitoba, Saskatchewan, and Alberta.







Combining the Picturesque with the Practical Side of Farming. A Scene in the Battleford District.

the Prince Albert section, in 1906, as high as twenty-five and thirty bushels per acre were harvested off many acres. The experiment in infancy proved such a success that it is now being prosecuted with energy.

Railways. The northern line of the Canadian Northern passes through the centre of Central Saskatchewan. For about one hundred miles east of Prince Albert there is a splendid farming country, park-like in appearance, and admirably adapted to mixed agriculture. The balance of the country east to the Manitoba boundary line is heavily wooded. The difficulty of clearing this is considerable, but compensation lies in the value of the timber. Mills supply the settled districts to the south and west with lumber, while as a fuel proposition it is but an evidence of what nature has done in providing for the necessities of the prairie settler. When cleared, this land will be well fitted for agriculture; its characteristics are ideal for classes that prefer wooded country to the plains. The Hudson Bay line is projected from Etamamie, a point on the Prince Albert line, and about one hundred miles are completed. The Regina-Prince Albert branch of the Canadian Northern serves a portion of Central Saskatchewan, and is of immense value to the settlers and to the towns along it. A portion of the main line on its way to Edmonton is built through the western end of the Central district, entering Alberta at Lloydminster, passing through an agricultural country, every mile of which, for leagues on either side of the track, has been an attraction to settlers from the United States and Europe for the last few years, until it is now well settled with prosperous farmers. South of and paralleling the main line of the Canadian Northern is the Grand

Trunk Pacific. This will be a feeder to the agricultural belt south of that tributary to the Canadian Northern. Government reports show this land to be rich in all the properties that make farming successful. The contemplated branch lines through Central Saskatchewan will shortly bring all parts of the en-



A City School

tire district within easy reach. The average yield of the

wheat crop of this season throughout Saskatchewan while not so large as that of other years, is, nevertheless, a creditable showing when compared with the records of other large wheat-growing countries. The following table will show that even in this admittedly unfavourable season the yield is equal to, or even better than that of many wheat-growing states of the American Union. These figures with the exception of those for Saskatchewan are taken from the 1906 Year Book of the United States Department of Agriculture.

Comparative statement of the average yield of wheat per acre, 1901-1907:

	1901	1902	1903	1904	1905	1906	1907
Saskatchewan	25.41	22.57	19.44	17.51	23.09	21.40	15.17
Kansas	18.5	10.4	14.1	12.4	13.7	16.1
Minnesota	12.9	13.9	13.1	12.8	13.3	10.9
North Dakota	13.1	15.9	12.7	11.8	14.9	13.6
South Dakota	12.9	12.2	13.8	9.6	13.7	13.4
Nebraska	17.1	20.9	15.7	13.6	19.4	22.0
Iowa	1.2	12.7	12.4	11.6	14.2	15.7
United States	15.0	14.5	12.9	12.5	14.5	15.5
Russia	7.9	11.1	10.6	11.5	10.2

Northern Saskatchewan.

Northern Saskatchewan embraces an area of about 70,000,000 acres. As yet it is not opened for settlement because of its inaccessibility and distance from the railway systems of the country, the nearest railway station being Prince Albert.

ALBERTA.

Alberta, 400 miles in average width and 750 miles from north to south, embraces an area of 161,920,000 acres, and is double the size of Great Britain and Ireland and much larger than Germany or France. Its population is nearly 200,000, though it could well locate 50 millions. The Province has three divisions, showing marked distinctions in topographical and climatic conditions. The Southern is open and rolling, devoid of timber, except along the streams and in the foothills of the Rockies; the Central is more or less timbered, the belts of timber being broken here and there by prairie openings, some being of considerable extent; the Northern is in a class by itself. The advantages which each offers to the settler are diverse in character. They are spoken of as Southern, Central, and Northern Alberta.

Southern Alberta.

The soil is rich alluvial loam. In places gravel and sandy ridges occur, but in the valleys the accumulated silt deposit of ages has produced a soil of the richest kind and of great depth. The climate is an attractive feature, the winters mild, with very little snow, and the summers pleasant. Rainfall varies according to locality from twelve to twenty inches in the year. Its absence during the late summer months causes the native grasses to cure on the



Country School House.

ground, retaining their nutritive qualities in such a manner that stock pastured thereon remain fat all winter. Cold and stormy weather is experienced at times during the winter months, but the prevailing warm winds which blow from the west, locally known as the chinook winds, rapidly disperse any snow and for days at a time cause a rise in the thermometer to almost summer temperature.

Fuel. A large portion of Southern Alberta is bare of timber for fuel, but this is compensated for by the inexhaustible supply of coal which crops out along the steep banks of the streams that plentifully water the country. Besides the coal mines at Lethbridge, several others are being operated in widely ranging sections of the country.

Supply of Water. In some parts irrigation is used in producing grain and fodder crops; streams flowing down from the mountains afford water for this purpose, feeding hundreds of miles of ditches and canals as well as providing an unfailing supply of pure and cold water for stock and dairying. Thus, combined with the absence of flies, is obtained the best conditions for the production of butter and cheese.

Ranching. The ranching country of Canada is chiefly in Southern Alberta and Southwestern Saskatchewan. The ranches vary from 1,000 to 20,000 acres and over. Abundance of coarse grass which does not form into turf as in other countries, but grows in tufts, makes good fodder both in summer and winter. Cattle and horses roam at large, remain out all winter, and live ordinarily on the grass. Wild hay is stacked every summer for use when a thaw is followed by a frost, as it is difficult for cattle to eat through crusted snow.

Winter Wheat. A few years ago it was thought that this part of the country would ever remain the home of the "chinook" winds and the cowboy, but a change has taken place. The "chinook" will ever remain, but under the hand of the experienced agriculturist it will be shorn of much of its natural influence, while the cowboy is already on the move. Formerly the country from Moose Jaw to Red Deer was ignored when estimating the wheat-growing districts, and dismissed as "the ranching country." To-day, the rancher is receding with his flocks and herds before the advancing settler from across the American boundary, and the ranching plains of Alberta are being converted into fields of "golden grain," with some areas of sugar-beets in the western section. During the past few years the growth of winter wheat has increased and multiplied in acreage and total production. In Alberta, in 1903, 3,440 acres produced 82,418 bushels; in 1904, 8,296 acres grew 152,125 bushels; in 1905, the acreage had increased to 32,174 and the crop to 689,019 bushels. Area in 1906 was 43,661 acres, yield 907,421 bushels; area in 1907, 98,382 acres, yield 2,039,409 bushels. The area under crop in 1907 was about 100,000 acres, yielding about 23 bushels to the acre. Sown in August it grows to a height of six to eight inches in the fall, comes through the winter without heaving or injury, and, even with the little snowfall that prevails, escapes the "thaw and freeze" period. It is ready for the reaper from the 1st to the 15th of August. Climatic, soil, and other conditions make this portion of Central Canada especially favourable to the growth of this cereal. Around Lethbridge, Tabor, Cardston, Spring Coulee, Pincher Creek, MacLeod, Stavely, Leavitt, Claresholm, Nanton, High River, Okotoks, and up to Calgary, the increase in acreage sown last year was quite marked. North of



The Raising of Horses is a Profitable Industry in Central Canada.

Calgary winter wheat has considerable attention given to its production, and in the vicinity of Edmonton—which is the home of mixed farming—it is grown. At Didsbury, Olds, Lacombe, and Wetaskiwin it has done well. Level-headed business men have gone largely into the building of elevators and flour mills between the boundary and Red Deer, a strong endorsement of the fact that the growing of winter wheat has passed the experimental stage.

PRECIPITATION.

The following table gives for some years back the precipitation at five different points where there are meteorological observatories:

Year.	Pincher	Calgary.	Lethbridge.	Medicine	Macleod.
	Creek In.	In.	In.	Hat. In.	In.
1885		13.67		8.65	
1886		11.32		6.72	
1887		13.69		9.89	
1888		17.51		14.67	
1889		11.59		7.96	
1890		15.47		9.13	
1891		10.44		13.15	
1892		7.91		12.24	
1893		11.05		14.60	
1894		11.70		13.14	
1895		15.12		14.13	
1896		16.05		18.18	12.73
1897		20.57		17.25	12.69
1898		16.21		15.90	13.59
1899		26.15		22.28	19.74
1900		17.57		22.05	10.08
1901		22.31		20.80	12.21
1902	27.57	34.57	28.13	13.68	10.48
1903	17.84	22.77	14.82	9.90	9.73
1904	9.43	11.89	11.40	9.70	5.34
1905	14.52	14.32	13.78	8.99	11.63
1906	16.63	16.24	22.48	12.62	20.82

Spring Cereals. The rivers that rise in the mountains have formed many valleys with a soil of matchless fertility. They are easily reached by irrigation operations which already are of great extent and have brought a large area under spring sown cereals. In some districts good crops of spring wheat and oats are grown without the aid of irrigation.

Beet-Root Growing. In soil and climate this district compares favorably in sugar-beet growing with the best districts of Germany. The root demands little from the soil and yields large profits. Splendid irrigation systems are bringing a large area of country into suitability for this crop as well as for spring cereals. The factory at Raymond produced 4,673,300 pounds of sugar in 1906, as against 800,000 pounds in 1903, the first year of operation.

Fruits. Small fruits, such as currants and gooseberries, do well in all parts. Crab-apples and plums have been produced in Manitoba



School in Central Canada





Fleet of Grain Vessels at Fort William, Ontario

for some years past, and now both Saskatchewan and Alberta are growing them. Experiments made in Southwestern Alberta have had good results.

Alfalfa. one of the leading forage crops in any country in which it can be grown, is a marked success in most sections of this Province, and will yet come into general use.

Towns. In Southern Alberta there is the city of Calgary, at the junction of the Canadian Pacific and Calgary & Edmonton railways, and farther to the south are the towns of Lethbridge and MacLeod. There are banking and business facilities, and several manufacturing industries have been commenced. Other good towns lie between Macleod and Calgary.

Railways. The railway mileage of Southern Alberta is not as great as that in the Central portion, but the development of grain growing will give a wonderful impetus to railway building. A portion of the main line of the Canadian Pacific passes through the southern district, as well as the Calgary-Edmonton branch. The Crow's Nest line has a junction with the main line at Medicine Hat. It passes through several coal sections, serving the mining districts of Southern British Columbia, and will eventually reach the Pacific Coast. It now reaches Spokane in the State of Washington. The McLeod-Calgary line has opened up a rich agricultural area. Besides these railways, the completed irrigation ditches and those under construction will open up other blocks of agricultural land.

Central Alberta.

Central Alberta comprises the fertile valley stretching from about forty miles north of Calgary on for 200 miles past the Red Deer, Battle, North Saskatchewan, and Sturgeon rivers. Well wooded and watered, a settler with little means does not need to expend all his capital to provide shelter for himself and his stock. Out of the sides of the hills and in the coulees, flow springs of water that remain open the year round. Pure water can be obtained at a depth of from fifteen to thirty feet. If he has no timber on his land, the settler can for 25 cents get a permit and cut 1,801 lineal feet of building timber, 400 roof poles, 200 fence rails, and



This Ten-Year Old Lad Ploughed a Large Stubble Field Alone.

30 cords of dry wood, and put up his buildings. (The same regulations are in force in Saskatchewan and Manitoba).

The city of Edmonton, the provincial capital, about the centre of the division, is in latitude 53° 29' north and longitude 113° 49' west, as far south as Dublin in Ireland, Liverpool and York in England, or Hamburg in Germany; farther south than any part of Scotland, Denmark, Norway, or Sweden; and 455 miles farther south than St. Petersburg.

Scenery. Level and rolling prairie, hill and dell, clad in grass and flowers, dotted with groves of aspen, poplar, and spruce, delight the eye. Lakes, lakelets, and ponds reflect the bright blue skies above; the magnificent valleys of the Saskatchewan and other smaller, but not less beautiful, water courses lend boldness to a landscape of otherwise ideally pastoral charm.

Educational Facilities. A system of free public schools has been established. The organization of districts is optional with the settlers. The average cost to the settler for school maintenance is very low; the Government liberally supports all public schools.

Game. The most plentiful are ducks, prairie chicken, rabbits, geese, swans, cranes, partridge, snipe, plover; moose, red, black-tailed, and other deer; many of the small variety of wolf, foxes, an occasional black or brown bear, and timber wolves; badger, muskrat, marten, mink, otter, and wolverines. There are whitefish, sturgeon, trout, pike, and pickerel.

Sanitary Conditions. The water supply is ample and wholesome. The air is clear, pure, and aseptic, containing a large portion of ozone—the natural air purifier. The soil does not breed the miasma of malaria, the cause of ague in its many forms; nor, owing to the altitude and low mean temperature, can malaria ever exist. The climate is invigorating to adults, whether in full health or otherwise, and has a special influence in developing strong and healthy children.

Cities and Towns. The city of Edmonton has a population of over 12,000, and like all other places in the West is rapidly increasing. It has an advantageous situation on the north bank of the Saskatchewan River. Across the river on the southern bank, is Strathcona, with a population of 3,000. From these points settlers easily reach the outlying settlements. Fort Saskatchewan is twenty-five miles east. The Vermillion River, Beaver and Birch Lake districts are splendid. Vegreville and Vermillion are important centres on the Canadian Northern, and Chipman and Lamont are thriving towns. Sedgwick, Daysland, and Camrose are in excellent districts. Along the Calgary & Edmonton branch are Didsbury, Olds, Innisfail, Red Deer, Lacombe, Ponoka, Wetaskiwin, and Leduc.

Rivers. The most important are the Saskatchewan, Vermillion, Battle, and Red Deer, with innumerable tributaries. Large lakes of excellent water are plentiful. Sufficiency of moisture, so necessary to farming, is assured. There is ample rainfall in the season when it is most required.

Mixed Farming, Ranching, and Dairying. These are carried on with success, and there are wonderful yields of wheat, oats, and barley. Central Alberta is well suited for ranching, the grass being luxuriant and nutritious. Shelter

ing to be Loaded with Wheat from Central Canada.

is easily obtained, but it is better to house stock during a portion of the winter. Dairying pays the expenses of living and operating the farm, and poultry yields good profit.

Railways. As settlement has been ahead of railway building, the inability to move grain made it necessary to follow mixed farming, especially the raising of cattle. There is still so much money in this, that even with the advent of railway lines now tapping portions of this agricultural belt, the cattle industry is being continued, and the soil is also called upon to produce its yield of wheat, oats, and barley for the foreign markets. With railway construction comes the local demand for some of everything that can be grown, making the position of the farmer of Central Alberta an enviable one. The Canadian Pacific's branch line from Calgary to Edmonton serves a number of thriving towns that are building rapidly and well, an evidence that the settled and splendidly tilled country tributary has remarkable natural wealth and is rich in the productiveness of its soil. Other branches eastward from Lacombe and Wetaskiwin were urgently needed. Along these are prosperous towns. The grain elevators at each express, better than words, the grain-producing richness of the districts. Cattle-shipping facilities at almost every station give some idea of the presence of another important and paying industry. The main line of the Canadian Northern enters the Province at Lloydminster and reaches Edmonton. Tributary to it on the north and south agricultural belts extend for miles on either side of the road. A large area is being brought under cultivation, but there are large tracts yet unoccupied, open to homestead as a gift of the Government, and to purchase from companies and private individuals. A branch extends northward from Edmonton through a splendid country, and another is constructed westward from Edmonton to Stony Plain. The Grand Trunk Pacific transcontinental system continues through the Central district. It will serve the territory lying between the Canadian Northern and the Canadian Pacific. It was not only with a view to securing as short a mileage as possible in its quest for a Pacific port that this route was chosen, but the management had in mind easy grades through a country that would produce freight and passenger revenue from the first. These they have accomplished. Settlements have been formed along the line, and towns established before the rails were laid, and thousands of homesteads taken; there is room for additional hundreds of thousands.

Who Will Succeed In Central Canada.

Those with some capital can engage in agricultural pursuits, take up free grant lands, buy railway lands, or purchase improved farms, or in mining, or in manufacturing. Living is cheap, with the benefits of a fine, healthy climate, magnificent scenery, and facilities for education. Besides the help required during harvest, there is a demand for strong, able-bodied men, accustomed to hard work, on railroad construction.

Married Men. It is easy to find a situation for a married man without children, the husband as a farm labourer, the

wife to assist in the housework, or, in many instances, they may find work with a bachelor, when the wife takes full charge of the housekeeping. Few farmers have a second house on the farm to accommodate a married man with children and the farmhouse is not large enough for two families.

Young Men With \$250 or Less. It is better to work for wages a year. Before the end of the first year, there might be an opportunity to purchase a quarter section of land, by making a small cash payment, and, securing a few head of cattle, be prepared in a short time to start for oneself.

What Can be Done With \$500. Homestead 160 acres at once and put up a house. Then make the necessary improvements—get work in the older districts during the other six months of the year, and tide yourself over a second six months of homestead. In three years you will own the homestead.

The Man With \$1,000. With this amount a fair start can be made. Either homestead or purchase (making payments on the instalment plan to cover a period of ten years). A small house and other buildings will be required as well as horses or oxen, a waggon, plough, and harrows. By working out in harvest and threshing, money could be earned to help over the winter. Sometimes it is well to rent the first year. Many of the farms to rent have a house and stable thereon, and the owner is often willing to supply seed, and sometimes implements, taking a share of the crop in return; or, the newcomer can purchase everything necessary, putting in a crop of 100 to 150 acres, and after seeding have two or three weeks to look about in selecting a permanent home.

Capital Means Opportunity. The settler with money is one, two, or five years ahead of the man who comes with but little; he is at once able to place himself in a good settlement, buy what he wants cheap for cash, and push vigorously.

The Time to Arrive. The farmer taking up land for himself, arriving at the beginning of the season's operations, can get in a crop of oats or potatoes during the month of



In the District Surrounding Moose Jaw, Saskatchewan, Last Fall There Were a Number of Scenes Such as is Here Shown.







A Country Station in Central Canada, Showing Line of Grain Elevators.

May or the first week in June. If he comes in the summer time he may see the crops growing, and thus have an opportunity to choose at leisure the most advantageous location. The summer and autumn months are the best for moving about the country in search of land. Having selected his location, he has time to erect his house and make preparations for winter; if he means to do this he will find it a great advantage in the spring to have been early on the spot.

Cost of Tools and Live Stock. The following estimate (outside figures) has been given of the amount required to start early and expeditiously:

1 team of horses.....	\$350 00
1 set harness.....	32 00
1 farm waggon.....	75 00
1 sleigh.....	25 00
1 breaking plow.....	25 00
1 stubble plow.....	18 00
1 3-section harrow.....	15 00
1 disc harrow.....	25 00
1 seeder.....	85 00
1 mowing machine.....	50 00
1 harvester.....	\$135 to 155 00
Other implements and tools.....	50 60
He should also have:	
4 good cows at \$40.....	160 00
4 good pigs at \$15.....	60 00
4 good sheep at \$5.....	20 00
Poultry.....	10 00

Total.....\$1,155 00

Intrinsic Land Value. The intrinsic value of land depends on the quantity and value of the crops. One man paid for his farm, and at the end of five years had over \$4,000 in the bank, besides having money out at interest; another in fifteen years had cleared \$9,200, besides paying for his farm.

As an illustration of what may be done in Central Canada; an American settler purchased 480 acres for \$2,200; he built a house and a barn on stone foundations, bought some good stock, and went to work. Three years afterwards he was offered \$12,000 cash for his place just as it stood, and declined the offer, saying, "I came here to make a home for my boys, and if I had the money in hand to-day, I know of no place in the world where I could invest it better."

The Prairies of Central Canada. On most of the prairies there are no trees to be cleared away, thus increasing the immediate cultivable area. With a gang-plough and two yoke of oxen, a quarter-section (160 acres) can be broken during five spring and summer months simply by turning a very thin sod with the plough; then back-set and harrow. This costs between \$3.50 and \$4.00 per acre, but sometimes a rougher and quicker system of breaking land is followed. The soil is an exceedingly rich black mould, of varying depth, with clay beneath which holds the moisture.

The southern portion of the country is rolling and almost treeless prairie, covered with coarse, rich grass growing in tufts, with shrubs and small trees scattered

grove-like here and there over the surface. In the northern sections and in the river valleys there are vast regions heavily wooded. Some of the lakes and rivers are skirted with timber, useful to the settlers for fuel. Along the slope of the Rocky Mountains this wooded condition exists. The land in the southwestern portion has in the past been looked upon as most suitable for grazing, but under irrigation, now being introduced on a large scale, develops wonderful fertility, and even without it, grain raising is successful in many places.

Grain Elevators. There are at present 1,221 elevators and 52 warehouses west of Lake Superior with a total capacity of over 55 million bushels, representing an investment of close upon 70 million dollars. To the east are others with a capacity of another 19 million bushels, while there are several at Montreal and other places. The largest is the Canadian Northern Tile Tank Elevator at Port Arthur, on Lake Superior. It holds over 6½ million bushels. Of the elevators west of the lakes the Canadian Pacific has 917 and 32 warehouses, with a capacity of 28½ million bushels; on the Canadian Northern there are 275 and 20 warehouses, with a capacity of 7½ million bushels; on the Midland and Brandon, Saskatchewan and Hudson Bay, 13 elevators, with a capacity of 365,000 bushels; on the Alberta Railway & Irrigation line 7 elevators, with a capacity of 209,000 bushels.

Results for the Farmer. The average yield of wheat in the West during fourteen years has been twenty bushels per acre, the highest yearly average being nearly twenty-eight bushels. In individual cases as high as forty and forty-five bushels per acre have been recorded. The quality of the western wheat must also be taken into account. Tests made by three London bakers show that this wheat has about 10 per cent more albuminoids than the best European brands; and that 100 pounds of Canadian flour make more bread of excellent quality than the same weight of any other flour imported into Great Britain.

To grow a bushel of wheat costs the western farmer about 35 cents. All he sells it for above this is clear gain. The average price for a number of years has been 68 cents, though it has varied in twenty-five years from 45 cents to \$1.25 per bushel. The present price is about one dollar.

A correspondent of the NEW YORK HERALD, writing of the railroad to Hudson Bay, concludes his article as follows:

"These great schemes hinge entirely upon the amazing development of Central Canada, whose magical black soil, experts say, will go on producing the hardest wheat in the world with stimulus for a century or more."



Showing Grain Stacks, and the Ploughing.

GRAIN HARVEST IN MANITOBA.

	SPRING WHEAT.			OATS			BARLEY			FLAX		
	Acreage	Yield	Average	Acreage	Yield	Average	Acreage	Yield	Average	Acreage	Yield	Average
1902.....	2,039,940	53,077,269	26.0	725,060	34,478,160	47.5	329,790	11,848,422	35.9	41,200	564,440	13.7
1903.....	2,442,873	40,116,878	16.42	855,431	33,035,774	38.62	326,537	8,707,252	26.66	55,900	586,950	10.50
1904.....	2,412,235	39,162,458	16.52	943,574	36,289,279	38.80	361,004	11,177,970	30.54	35,428	461,106	13.10
1905.....	2,643,588	55,761,410	21.07	1,031,239	45,484,025	42.06	432,298	14,064,025	31.02	24,770	326,944	13.02
1906.....	3,141,537	58,689,203	19.0	1,155,961	46,238,440	40.0	474,242	14,227,260	30.0	18,790		
1907.....	2,789,553	39,688,266	14.22	1,213,596	42,233,140	34.8	649,570	16,752,724	25.7	25,915	317,347	12.25

GRAIN CROPS IN SASKATCHEWAN.

	SPRING WHEAT			OATS			BARLEY			FLAX		
	Acreage	Yield	Average	Acreage	Yield	Average	Acreage	Yield	Average	Acreage	Yield	Average
1901.....	469,953	11,956,069	25.41	123,251	5,517,866	44.76	11,267	354,703	31.48			
1902.....	580,860	13,110,330	22.57	193,200	6,975,796	30.93	14,275	298,632	20.91	16,694	153,709	9.80
1903.....	777,822	15,121,015	19.44	280,096	9,164,007	32.71	27,679	665,593	24.94	31,644	285,697	9.02
1904.....	910,359	15,944,730	17.51	346,530	10,756,350	31.04	24,650	598,336	24.27	15,917	166,434	10.45
1905.....	1,130,084	26,107,286	23.09	449,936	19,213,055	42.70	32,946	893,396	27.11	25,315	398,399	15.73
1906.....	1,730,586	37,040,098	21.40	639,893	23,966,000	37.45	53,565	1,316,415	24.57	30,582	420,850	13.70
1907.....	1,847,708	28,042,106	15.17	772,770	29,064,679	37.76	60,261	1,903,072	31.10	86,483	921,109	10.81

NOTE.—On the basis of the prices prevailing to-day the wheat crop of 1907 should be worth \$21,135,000. Last year's crop was 35 per cent larger, and the quality was better. The total wheat yield in 1906 was probably worth \$24,000,000. When all the exceptional disabilities of the past growing season are taken into consideration, the aggregate results cannot be taken otherwise than as most flattering to the splendid productiveness of the soil and the courage and resourcefulness of the people. It is worthy of note that not only is the oats crop the largest in the record of the Province, but the average yield per acre has been exceeded in only two years since crop figures were first compiled by the department in 1898. During the same period the yield per acre of barley has only once been greater than this report announces for 1907.

GRAIN CROPS IN ALBERTA.

	SPRING WHEAT			WINTER (or FALL) WHEAT			OATS			BARLEY		
	Acreage	Yield	Average	Acreage	Yield	Average	Acreage	Yield	Average	Acreage	Yield	Average
1901.....	34,890	857,714	24.58				104,533	4,253,284	40.68	13,483	442,381	32.81
1902.....	45,064	850,122	18.36				118,997	3,776,976	31.74	22,201	473,108	21.31
1903.....	59,951	1,118,180	18.65	3,440	82,418	23.95	162,314	5,187,511	31.95	42,219	1,077,274	25.51
1904.....	47,411	786,075	16.58	8,296	152,125	18.33	180,698	5,609,496	31.04	61,549	1,608,241	26.12
1905.....	75,353	1,617,505	21.46	32,174	689,019	21.41	242,801	9,514,180	39.18	64,830	1,773,914	27.36
1906.....	97,760	2,326,292	23.65	43,661	907,421	20.78	322,923	14,353,322	44.30	75,678	2,101,877	26.45
1907.....	162,643	3,600,881	22.13	98,382	2,039,409	20.70	354,344	13,192,150	37.23	76,433	2,201,179	28.92

RESULTS OF EXPERIMENTAL FARM AT INDIAN HEAD FOR SEVEN CONSECUTIVE YEARS.

SPRING WHEAT.

Name of Variety	Length of Straw	Yield per Acre	Weight per Bu.
Red Fyfe.....	Averages between 45 in. and 55 in.	42 bu. 5 lbs.	Average 62½ lbs. for 7 yrs.
Preston { 4 days earlier than Red Fyfe		43 bu. 34 lbs.	63½ lbs. for 8 yrs.

OATS—AVERAGE FOR SEVEN YEARS.

Abundance.....	Between 45 in. and 55 in.	93 bu. 11 lbs.	38¼ lbs.
Golden Beauty.....		87 bu. 22 lbs.	40 lbs.
Banner.....		88 bu. 27 lbs.	39¼ lbs.

BARLEY—AVERAGE FOR SEVEN YEARS.

Mensury.....	Average from 30 in. to 35 in.	58 bu. 30 lbs.	49½ lbs.
Remin's Improved.....		58 bu. 28 lbs.	52 lbs.
Trooper.....		57 bu. 4 lbs.	52 lbs.

POTATOES.

American Wonder.....	Average for 8 years	429 bu. 10 lbs.	Long, oval, white.
Carmen No. 1.....	Average for 7 years	392 bu. 3 lbs.	Oval, white.
Burnaby Seedling.....		365 bu. 39 lbs.	Long, flat, pink.

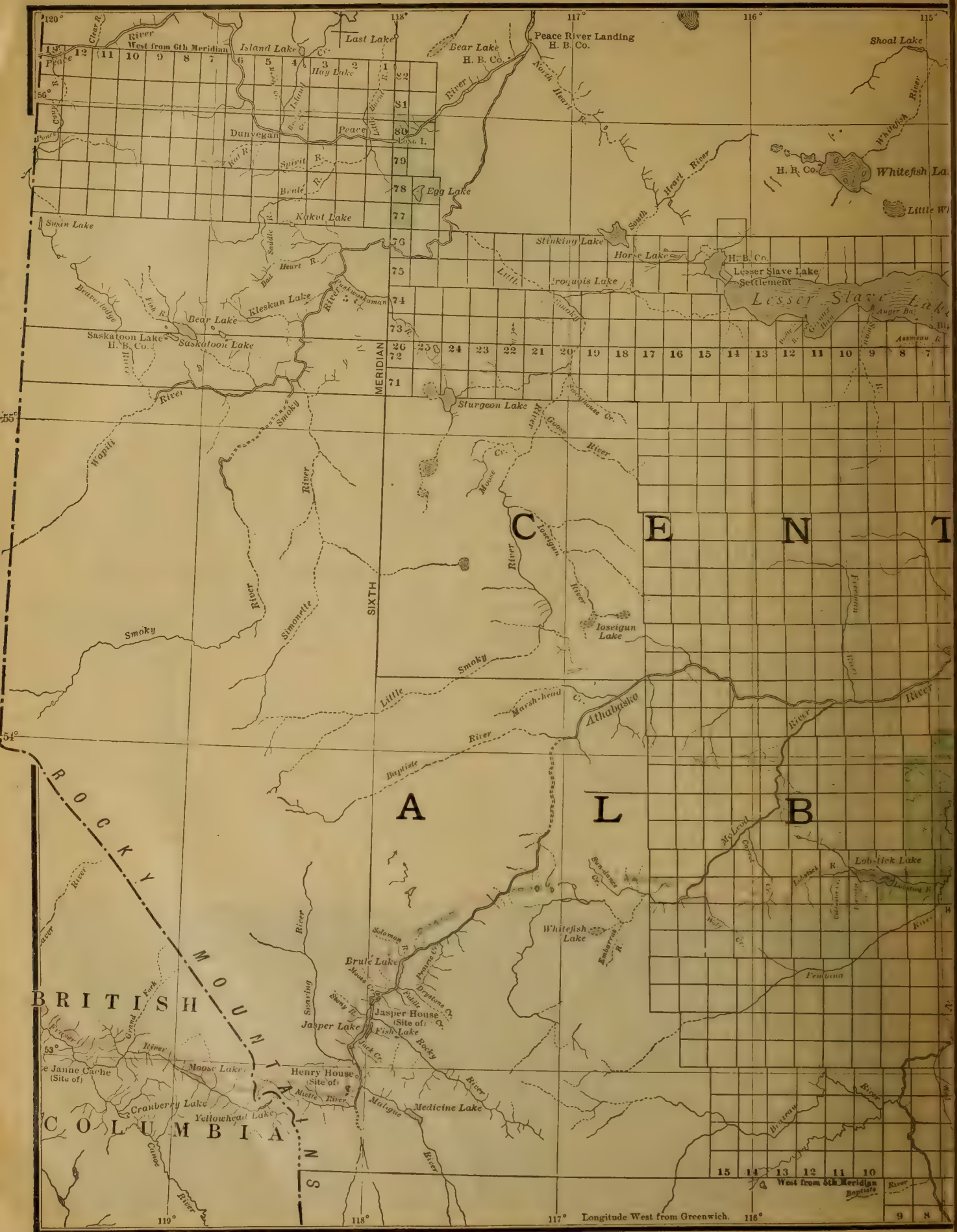
Temperature in Central Canada.

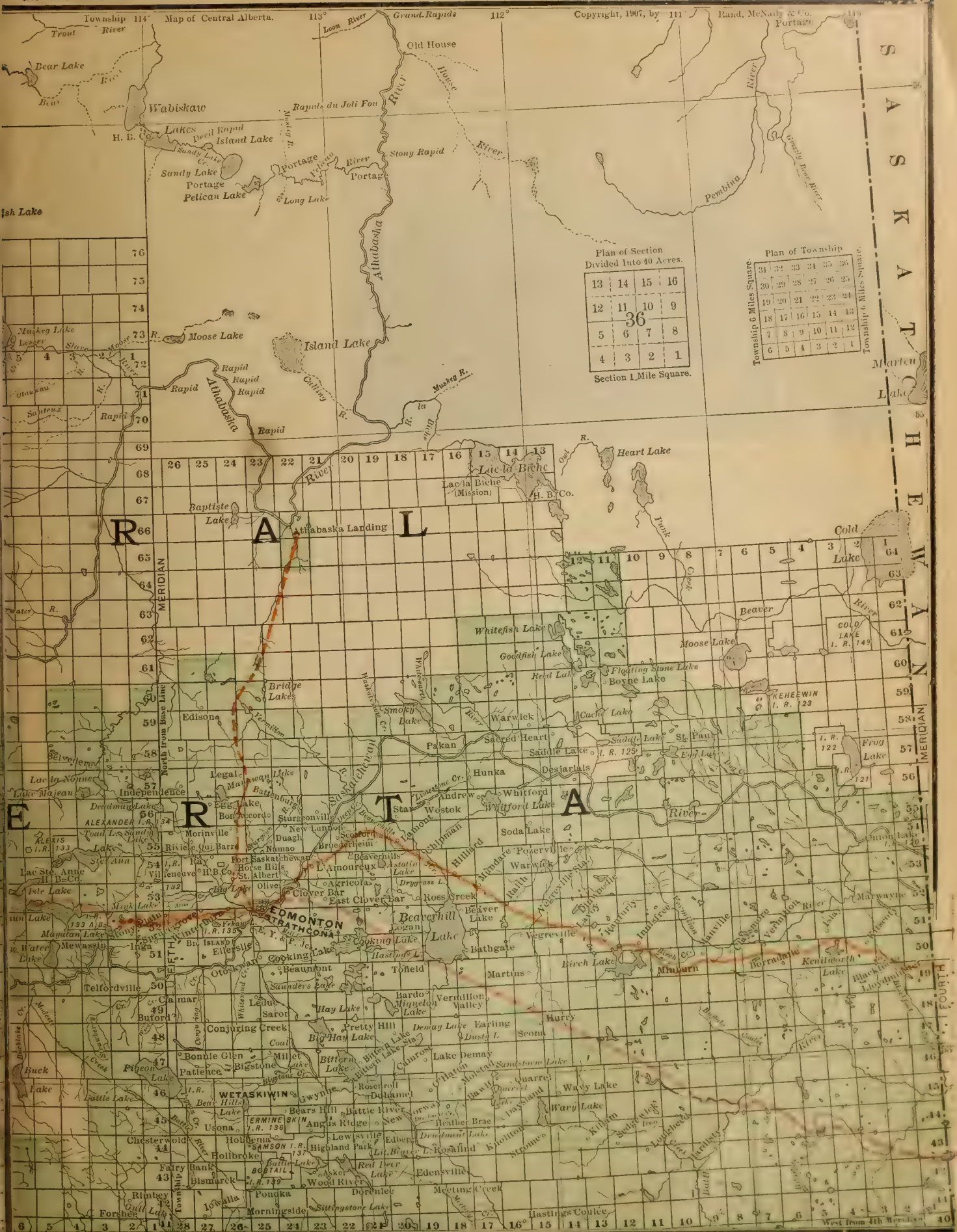
Table showing the average winter, summer, and annual temperatures at various points in the Central, taken from the official reports for ten years.

STATIONS	MEAN TEMPERATURE		
	Summer	Winter	Year
In the West—	deg.	deg.	deg.
Battleford.....	62.3	1.3	32.9
Banff.....	54.6	17.0	34.6
Chaplin.....	65.0	3.3	35.7
Calgary.....	58.8	13.9	37.4
Edmonton.....	59.3	8.8	35.9
Indian Head.....	62.9	2.2	38.0
Moose Jaw.....	61.6	5.3	33.9
Medicine Hat.....	63.7	12.5	39.9
Pincher Creek.....	58.8	22.5	38.9
Parkland.....	59.6	4.5	30.5
Prince Albert.....	59.5	2.1	30.7
Qu'Appelle.....	61.6	1.6	33.4
Regina.....	62.7	0.9	32.5
Swift Current.....	63.5	9.8	37.6
Brandon.....	63.1	0.4	33.1
Emerson.....	64.2	2.9	35.3
Winnipeg.....	66.0	0.9	33.3



This Central Canada Farmer Removed from England only a Few Years Ago and now Owns a Large Herd of Cattle and Splendid Wheat Fields







Parliament Building, Ottawa, Canada.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

The accompanying maps and the information given will prove valuable to the prospective settler and the person wishing to secure a home at low cost in a country long past the experimental stage, and which offers as testimony the splendid yields of grain—wheat, oats, barley, flax—that have been the talk of two continents for the past few years.

Owing to the number of questions asked daily, it has been deemed advisable to put in condensed form, in addition to the foregoing information, such questions as most naturally occur, giving the answers which experience dictates as appropriate, conveying the information commonly asked for.

Copies of literature, fully describing Central Canada, its resources, etc., will be mailed on application to any of the Canadian Government agents whose names appear elsewhere, or to:—

W. D. SCOTT,
Superintendent of Immigration,
OTTAWA, CANADA.

1. Where are these lands?

ANSWER. West of Lake Superior, north of Minnesota, North Dakota, and Montana, and east of the Rocky Mountains, in the Provinces and Districts known as Northern Ontario, Manitoba, Saskatchewan, and Alberta.

2. What kind of land is it?

ANSWER. Except in Northern Ontario, the land is prairie and can be secured free from timber and stones, if desired the soil being the very best alluvial black loam from one to two feet deep, with a clay subsoil. It is just rolling enough to give it good drainage, and in a great many places there is plenty of timber, and in other places it is underlaid with good coal.

3. If the land is what you say, why is the Government giving it away?

ANSWER. Canada is 250,000 square miles larger than the United States, and the population is only about one-twelfth of that of the great Republic, therefore there is an immense area of vacant land. No matter how fertile land is, it is no use to any country unless it is made productive. The Canadian Government realizes that Canada will be one of the greatest countries of the world when these lands are brought under cultivation. The Government, knowing that agriculture is the foundation of a progressive country, and that large yields of farm produce insure prosperity in all other branches of business, is doing everything in its power to assist the farmer. It also realizes that it is much better for each man to own his own farm, therefore it gives a free grant of 160 acres to every man who will reside upon it and cultivate the same.

4. Are the taxes high?

ANSWER. No. Having no expensive system of municipal or county organization, taxes are necessarily low. Each quarter-section of land, consisting of 160 acres, owned or occupied, is taxed very low. The only other taxes are for schools. In the locations where the settlers have formed school districts the total tax for all purposes on a quarter-section seldom exceeds \$8 to \$10 per annum.

5. Are there any schools outside the towns?

ANSWER. These districts can not exceed five miles in length or breadth, and must contain at least four actual residents, and twelve children between the ages of five and sixteen. In almost every locality, where these conditions exist, schools have sprung up.

6. In those parts which are better for cattle and sheep than for grain, what does a man do if he has only 160 acres?

ANSWER. If a settler should desire to go into stock raising and his quarter-section of 160 acres should not prove sufficient to furnish pasture for his stock, he can make application to the Land Commissioner for a lease for grazing lands for a term of twenty-five years, at a very low cost.

7. Does the Government tax him if he lets his cattle run on Government lands, and will he get into trouble if his cattle go on land leased by the big ranchers? If they fence their land is he obliged to fence his also?

ANSWER. The settler is not required to pay a tax for allowing his cattle to run on Government land, but it is advisable to lease land from the Government for haying and grazing purposes, when needed. It seems reasonable that, if a settler's quarter-section is in the vicinity or adjoining a rancher's land which he has leased and paid for, that he should object to anyone's cattle running over his property, and vice versa. If one fences his land, his adjoining neighbor has to stand a proportionate share of the cost of the fence adjoining his property, or build one-half of it himself, but ranchers seldom fence land for ranching.

8. Where can he get material for a house and sheds, and about what would it cost him? What does he do for fuel? Do people suffer from the cold?

ANSWER. Though there are large tracts of forest in the Canadian West, there are localities where the quantity of building timber and material is limited, but this has not proven any drawback as the Government has made provision for such cases. Should a man settle on a quarter-section deprived of timber, he can, by making application to the Dominion Lands Agent obtain a permit to cut on Government lands free of charge the following, viz.:

1. 3,000 lineal feet of building timber, measuring no more than 12 inches at the butt.
2. 400 roofing poles.
3. 2,000 fencing rails and 500 fence posts, 7 feet long, and not exceeding five (5) inches in diameter at the small end.
4. 30 cords of dry fuel wood for firewood.

Having all these free of charge, the settler has only the expense of the cutting and hauling to his homestead, which can not cost him a great deal. The principal

districts are within easy reach of firewood; the settlers of Alberta and Saskatchewan are particularly favoured, especially along the various streams, from some of which they get all the coal they require, frequently at the cost of handling and hauling it home. No one in the country need suffer from the cold on account of scarcity of fuel.

9. In what way can I secure land in Central Canada?

ANSWER. See "Homestead Regulations" elsewhere.

10. Is it timber or prairie lands?

ANSWER. This depends greatly upon location. There is more or less timber along all streams. As you go north or northwest, it is more heavily timbered; taken as a whole, it is about 20 per cent. timber.

11. Can I take up more than 160 acres?

ANSWER. No; 160 acres is all that you can get by homesteading, the entry fee being \$10, without any further monetary consideration.

12. How far from railroad will I have to go to take up a homestead?

ANSWER. This varies with the location.

13. Where can a settler sell what he raises? Is there any competition amongst buyers, or has he got to sell for anything he can get?

ANSWER. Adjoining the grain-growing areas are the world-famed mining provinces of British Columbia and the Yukon Territory; mining communities furnish the best possible markets for all classes of goods. This population is to a great extent dependent upon the outside world for every necessity of life, and as a rule is a generous consumer and "good pay." Scores of buyers scour the country in quest of farm products, thus creating a lively competition, and guaranteeing the highest market prices for everything. There is an unlimited demand for the grains grown in Central Canada by the numerous and extensive flour mills, oatmeal mills, and breweries. All the surplus grain grown finds its way to the markets of Europe. The meats are bought on the hoof, at the home of the farmer or rancher.

14. How is it for stock raising?

ANSWER. The country has no equal. The climate in many parts is such that cattle are never housed throughout the winter, and so nutritious are the wild grasses that stock is marketed without having been fed any grain.

15. If a man has two or more sons who have homesteaded, is each of them required to live on his claim?

ANSWER. See Clauses 2 and 3. "Homestead Duties."

16. If a man takes his family there before he selects a homestead, can he get temporary accommodation for them?

ANSWER. In a great many places the Government maintains Immigration Halls and gives free temporary accommodation for those desiring such and supplying their own provisions.

17. What chance is there for employment when a man first goes there and isn't working on his land?



One of Central Canada's Churches.

ANSWER. There are different industries through the country, outside of farming and ranching, such as sawmills, flour mills, brick-yards, railroad building in the summer, and lumbering in the winter; it is always easy for a man to find employment at fair wages when not working on his land. The chances for employment are good, as a large percentage of those going in and those already there farm so much that they must have help, and pay good wages. During the past two seasons 20,000 farm labourers have been brought in each year from the eastern provinces to assist in caring for the large crops. People without capital, not able or not knowing how to work, will find difficulty in getting on in any country; the capable and willing worker is sure to succeed in Central Canada.

18. How much money must he have to start grain farming, and how little can he do with if he goes ranching?

ANSWER. This is answered under chapter "Who Will Succeed."

19. If a man takes up a quarter-section to ranch on, is he obliged to break up land the same as if he were going farming?

ANSWER. No; not if he is the owner of twenty head of cattle.

20. About what time does seeding begin?

ANSWER. As a rule farmers begin their seeding from the first to the fifteenth of April, sometimes continuing until the fifteenth of May.

21. How long does it take wheat to mature?

ANSWER. The average time is from 90 to 110 days. This short time is accounted for by the great amount of sunlight.

22. Is the climate agreeable and pleasant as described in the pamphlets?

ANSWER. There is no doubt of that, and if you will carefully read the experiences of settlers and others you will see that the statements made by the Government and its representatives are fully corroborated.

23. What is the duration of the winter?

ANSWER. Snow begins to fall about the middle of November and in March there is generally very little. Near the Rocky Mountains the snowfall is not as heavy as farther east and in Manitoba, but the chinook winds in the West have a tempering influence, and the moisture afforded by the fall of snow in the East, which is so necessary to the successful raising of grain, is rendered by these chinook winds. The absence of the snowfall would be regretted by the farmer. Nature has provided for every mile of the country, and as a matter of choice there is really very little, with the exception that farther west the climate is somewhat milder.

24. Then as to summer climate?

ANSWER. The summer days are warm and the nights cool. The fall and spring are most delightful, although it may be said that winter breaks almost into summer, and the latter lasts until October.

25. Is the country healthful?

ANSWER. Very. There are no pulmonary or other endemic complaints.

26. Is there sufficient rainfall?

ANSWER. Speaking generally, yes; a sufficient supply can be relied upon. The most rain falls in May and June, just when it is most needed.

27. Can a man raise a crop on the first breaking of his land?

ANSWER. Yes, but it is not regarded as satisfactory to use the land for any other purpose the first year than for raising garden vegetables, or perhaps a crop of flax, as it is necessarily rough on account of the heavy sod not having had time to rot and become workable.

28. How is the country for hay in those districts where it is necessary to put up hay for use of stock in the winter?

ANSWER. There is sufficient wild hay meadow on Government or vacant land, which may be rented at a very low rental, if you have not enough on your own farm. The experience of the past few years has proven that timothy and other cultivated grasses can be successfully grown. Brome Grass is now cultivated. The yield is from two to four tons per acre and the nutritiousness is greater than that of timothy.

29. How shall I know what to do or where to go when I reach that country?

ANSWER. If you have made sufficient study of the matter before you start, you will need very little further advice or assistance, but go immediately to the place decided upon, and you will succeed. If you have not, you had better put yourself in communication with the Canadian Government Agents, whose names appear elsewhere. At Winnipeg, you will find maps showing vacant lands, also lands for sale, lists of farmers who wish to employ male and female help. Having decided on the district where you will make your home, you will be given the services of a competent guide, who will assist in locating you.

30. Can I get employment with a farmer so as to become acquainted with local conditions?

ANSWER. This can be done through the Commissioner of Immigration at Winnipeg immediately on your arrival. He is in a position to offer engagements with well-established farmers. Men experienced in agriculture may expect to receive about \$20 per month with board and lodging, engagements, if desired, to extend for twelve months.

31. But if I have had no experience and simply desire to become acquainted with agriculture in Western Canada before starting life on my own account?



The Above Picture is that of a Field of Wheat in Central Canada of 400 Acres, that Netted the Owner a Profit of \$3,600.

ANSWER. Young men and others unacquainted with farm life, who are willing to accept from \$8 to \$10 per month, including board and lodging, will be able to find positions through the Government officers at Winnipeg. Wages are dependent upon experience and qualification, and no one is expected to work for nothing. After working for a year in this way, the knowledge necessary of the conditions under which agriculture is carried on there will be found sufficient to justify you in taking a free grant and entering upon farm life on your own account.

32. How much baggage will I be allowed on the railways?

ANSWER. 150 pounds for each full ticket.

33. Can fruit be raised in Central Canada, and if so, state the different varieties?

ANSWER. Small fruits grow wild. Among those cultivated are plums, cranberries, strawberries, gooseberries, raspberries, melons, etc. In the eastern provinces fruit growing is carried on very extensively and successfully.

34. Do vegetables thrive there, and if so, what kinds are raised?

ANSWER. Yes, potatoes, turnips, carrots, beets, parsnips, cabbage, peas, beans, celery, pumpkins, tomatoes, squash, etc.

35. What sort of people are settled there so far, and do they speak English?

ANSWER. The settlers already there comprise Canadians, English, Scotch, Irish, French, and a large number of English-speaking Americans (who are going in, in large numbers), with a splendid lot of Germans and Scandinavians. The English language is the language of the country, and is spoken everywhere.

36. Where is information to be had about British Columbia?

ANSWER. Apply to Superintendent of Immigration, Ottawa, Ontario, or to the Secretary Provincial Bureau of Information, Victoria, B.C.

37. Can I get a map or list of all the lands now vacant and open to entry as homesteads?

ANSWER. No; it has been found impracticable to keep a publication of that kind up to date owing to the frequent changes. An intending settler should decide in a general way where he will go, and on reaching Central Canada should enquire of the Government officials what lands are vacant in that particular locality, finally narrowing down the enquiry to a township or two, diagrams of which, with the vacant lands marked, will be supplied, free of charge, on application to the local agent of Dominion Lands.

38. Can a person borrow money on a homestead before receiving patent?

ANSWER. No; contrary to Dominion Lands Act.

39. What are the roads like?

ANSWER. Bridges and culverts are built where needed, and roadways are usually graded up; but not graveled or macadamized. Good travelling in ordinary seasons and every fall and winter; but rather bad during exceptionally wet summer. Roads are being improved as the country becomes more settled.

40. Is land open prairie, or bush?

ANSWER. In immediate neighborhood of Edmonton and throughout most of the district, the land is partially wooded. Becomes more open to the east at a distance of about 40 miles. Most of the northern section has more or less wood.

41. What does lumber cost?

ANSWER. Spruce boards and dimension, about \$18 per thousand feet; shiplap, \$20; flooring and siding, \$23 up, according to quality; cedar shingles, \$2.50 to \$3 per thousand. These prices fluctuate and are now advancing.

42. Is living expensive?

ANSWER. Sugar, granulated, 14 to 18 lbs. for \$1, according to fluctuation of market. Tea, 30 to 50c. a lb.; coffee, 30 to 45c. a lb.; bacon, 12½ to 18c.; flour, \$1.75 to \$2.75 per 98 lbs. Dry goods about Eastern Canada prices. Cotton somewhat dearer than in United States, and woollen goods noticeably cheaper. Stoves and furniture considerably higher than eastern prices, owing to freight charges.

Dominion Electoral Divisions shown in colour. Lands in Peace River Block, as well as those along





BRITISH COLUMBIA

SCALES

Statute Miles, 60-1 Inch.

10 20 30 40 50
Published by Rand, McNally & Co., a New Business Atlas Map of Western Canada
Copyright 1907 by Rand, McNally & Co.

the Canadian Pacific Railway within shaded line, are administered by the Dominion Government.



This Farm is Located at Saskatchewan, and the Yield of Wheat was Forty-Seven Bushels per Acre; Oats, 108 Bushels.

1907 CROP CONDITIONS IN CENTRAL CANADA.

This is the Day of Dollar Wheat. Central Canada Farmers Bask in Financial Sunshine.

The unusually severe winter of 1906-07 was felt in most of the states of the Union, and the effects of the succeeding late spring were everywhere apparent. Corn was planted two and sometimes three times before weather conditions permitted it to germinate; winter wheat also suffered. Most spring seeding was late or deferred altogether, and as the summer advanced there was evidence everywhere of a greatly retarded growth and slow maturing and ripening of all grains. From the Dakotas to Texas the fears that were entertained of the failure of crops in many places and their partial failure in others seem, unfortunately, to have been well founded. Those who have had the experience know to what extent this has been. Central Canada, comprising the provinces of Manitoba, Saskatchewan, and Alberta, also shared to some extent the winter and late spring conditions, but, doubtless owing to the highly generative soil, length of sunshine, and other favourable conditions, the 1907 crop of wheat, oats, and barley has been reasonably good. This will be interesting information to the friends and relatives of the 250,000 or 300,000 farmers from the United States who have made their homes in Central Canada during the past few years, and nearly every state in the Union has representatives there. Many of these friends and relatives have watched the crop reports for 1907, before deciding to follow. There is now no reason for further hesitation. The country has shown that the faith placed in it was warranted. It has as in past years produced sufficient evidence to show that in agricultural possibilities and resources it stands at the head of the food producing countries of the world, yielding a greater return for the money and labour invested than any.

A late spring delayed seeding from the usual early April period until late in May, and in many cases well on into June. And with what result? It is yet a little early to tell exactly, but that there will be a three-quarter crop is absolutely certain. Last year's wheat crop totalled 95 million bushels, and estimates place this year's crop at from

75 million to 83 million bushels. It could not be expected that June sown grain would mature and ripen in any country. Yet there is the case of those who sowed wheat as late as the 5th of June and harvested a crop yielding twenty-six bushels to the acre. One man at Yellow Grass—a United States settler—did this, and he is satisfied. The May sown matured and ripened, and this is the feature that has proven Central Canada's superiority as a grain-growing country.

At Gladstone, Manitoba, the returns from one farm near town were \$27 per acre from the wheat land, \$35 per acre from the oats and \$30 from the acreage in barley. In another section, that of Dauphin, Manitoba, the average yield on many farms was from 20 to 24 bushels to the acre, but in many places the grade of the grain was poor. Considerable graded 2 and 3 northern. Several of the farmers, who put in a large amount of barley in the spring, are now congratulating themselves as they are making a very handsome profit out of their crop.

At Meadow Lea, Manitoba, wheat yielded from 15 to 20 bushels per acre, and graded 1 and 2 northern, the latter bringing the round dollar.

At Oak Lake, Manitoba, on some fields where 21 bushels per acre were expected, 12 and 15 was the result; others again where 20 was looked for gave 22 to 25. One special patch south of town on J. McFarlane's farm (land that had been pastured) went as high as 30 bushels per acre.

At Sheho, Saskatchewan, oats yielded from 60 to 65 bushels per acre; Sam Wunder threshed 2,500 bushels from forty acres. All over the sample was good and weighed well.

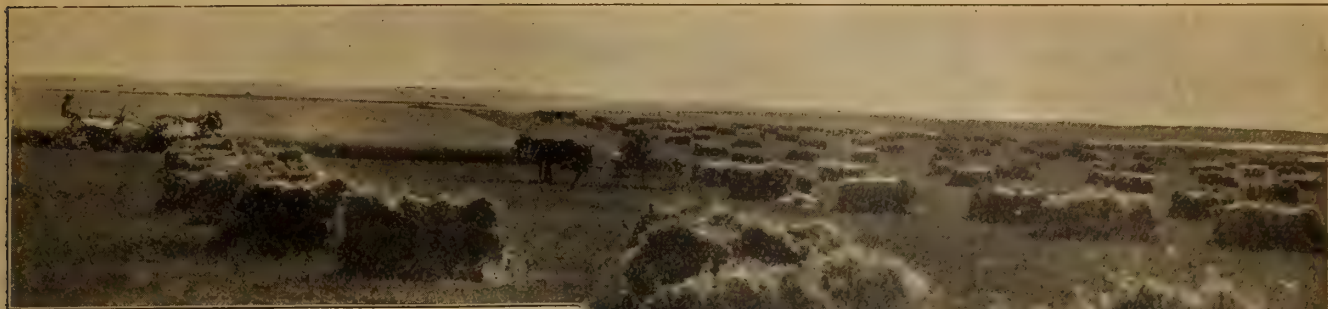
At Lloydminster, Saskatchewan, W. Bibby threshed 97 bushels of oats to the acre, and two others were but little behind. The wheat reached 35 bushels.

At Portage la Prairie, Manitoba, from a quarter-section all in crop, Alex. MacKinnon, of Ingleside, threshed an average of 33 bushels of No. 1 northern. The same grade was given to T. J. Grant, whose 190 acres yielded 6,000 bushels.

On the farm known as the MacLeod farm, $4\frac{1}{2}$ miles north-



One of Central Canada's Farms that is Making a Great Success of Hog Raising.



An Alberta Field of Banner Oats (1907).

east of Edmonton on the Fort Saskatchewan trail, samples of Red Fyfe were taken that were uniformly plump and hard and of excellent colour. This field went 25 bushels to the acre. Across the road a crop of similar quality was observed, though not so heavy on the ground. Some fields of spring wheat will yield 25 bushels to the acre.

A McLeod (Alberta) paper published the following in a November issue; Skelding Bros. of Stand Off have just finished thrashing what we believe to be the banner crop in this district this season. From 21 acres, summer fallow, planted to Alberta Red, they thrashed out 1,365 bushels, an average of 65 measured bushels (60 pounds) to the acre. From 28 acres, breaking, they thrashed out 1,120 bushels or 40 bushels to the acre. The grain was out before the late storm, and was therefore, untouched by frost, and should grade No. 1 hard.

These illustrations, taken from widely distant districts (thousands of others fully as good could be produced), show that the year 1907 has not felt the serious effects from the severe winter, late spring, or unfavourable conditions during the growing season, that was anticipated. The many hours of sunshine during the growing and ripening season are not the only factors which make grain growing and cattle raising successful in Central Canada. The high quality of the soil and the cool nights are others. With excellent markets, good railway privileges, splendid schools, and churches, a law-abiding community, but little more is required—and that little, whatever it may be, is also provided.

HON. FRANK OLIVER ON CANADA WEST. Interesting Statement as to Crops and Progress of Settlement There.

Hon. Frank Oliver, Minister of the Interior of Canada, says:

"Although the crops have not fulfilled the promise held out in the early part of August, neither have they justified the fears expressed in early September. It is conceded that the wheat crop will be in the neighbourhood of 80 million bushels, as against somewhat over 90 million bushels last year. While the average quality is lower, the price is 50 per cent higher, so that on the whole the returns to the farmer will be very little, if any, less than last year.

"Much the same conditions apply to oats and barley as to wheat. The oat crop is estimated at 85 million bushels, against 87 millions last year. The remarkable advance in price, owing to crop failures in other parts of the world, more than makes up to the farmer the losses in quantity or quality as compared with last year. The excellent weather which has prevailed during the harvesting and threshing seasons has enabled all grain to be saved in excellent condition and at a minimum expense, and as a consequence the feeling of doubt and depression which existed during the early part of September has given place to one of renewed confidence.

"Although spring opened very late, the ground was

generally speaking, in excellent condition for seeding, and practically a full crop was sown, but owing to the fact that the season was late a larger proportion of oats and barley were sown than usual. In Southern Manitoba the early summer was dry, and at one time there was a fear of failure. This was translated by outside reports into prospective failure for the whole West. At the same time the conditions of growth in all other parts could not have been improved upon. Later on the crops in Southern Manitoba showed marked improvement, and in the latter end of July the indications were that the delayed seeding would be fully met by the later more favourable conditions. In Southern Alberta, where the crop is fall wheat, all conditions were ideal.

In August, however, instead of the usual warm, dry weather which is depended upon to ripen the crops, there came heavy rains, which continued into September, and wound up on or about September 11th with a fall of snow in the western part of the country, which was heaviest in the Southwest, followed by several degrees of frost, which closed the season of growth. Then the most damaging reports were sent out, and certainly conditions were very unpromising. The weather cleared, however, at once, and conditions for harvesting, threshing, and marketing could not have been improved upon. The snowfall was heaviest in the fall wheat area of Southern Alberta, but the grain there was so far matured that even what remained uncut suffered practically no damage beyond one or two cents a bushel because of bleaching by the wet. This was the only loss besides the extra cost of harvesting. It was only when the threshers got to work that the farmers found what a crop they had, the yield frequently running from thirty to forty bushels per acre, and in some cases fifty to sixty bushels. The crop of fall wheat in Southern Alberta is estimated at 3 million bushels. The Swan River district in Northwestern Manitoba had also a considerable area sown to fall wheat, and the results there were equally satisfactory. Throughout the remainder of the West there are regions which are recognized as being especially suitable for spring wheat, and others which are more suitable for growing oats and barley and for stock raising. Speaking generally, the wheat in the solely wheat-growing districts runs from considerably over the average yield in some districts to somewhat under it in others, the difference being occasioned chiefly by the amount of rainfall. Where the land was especially rich, and still more if it had been summer fallowed, the late rains prevented the crop from maturing, so that the quality was seriously damaged where wheat was sown. But on

light land or on stubble where the conditions did not favour rank growth the crop was good."

"Throughout Manitoba the wheat crop is but little under the average; in the whole of Western Saskatchewan it is a fair average, and in Southern Alberta it is much over the average. In Central and Northern Alberta, in Northeastern Saskatchewan and parts of Northwestern Manitoba, where oats are the principal crop, wheat is more seriously damaged, but the yield of oats is fair and the grain is of good marketable quality. But the exceptionally high grades of milling oats for which these districts are noted are not available this year in large quantities, and the value for seed purposes of a great deal of the marketable oats is a matter to be seriously considered.

"While an unfavourable season and some disappointment in crop returns must be admitted, the financial situation is saved by the abnormally high price being received. Feed wheat is worth as much this year as No. 1 northern was last year, and feed oats and barley are worth much more than the best qualities were last year. The net result to the farmer is, therefore, as good, or nearly as good, as he received on his last year's crop. This condition maintains confidence and supports legitimate business, while, of course, the speculative element is almost entirely cut out.

While the general conditions are favourable, there are small sections of almost exclusively wheat-growing country in Eastern Saskatchewan and Northwestern Manitoba which have suffered total loss. In those sections a frost so slight as to be almost unnoticed at the time occurred on August 2d, when the wheat was in bloom. The frost, although so slight, was sufficient to kill the bloom and no grain formed in the head. The same amount of frost occurring at any other period of growth would not have had any perceptible effect. There was also considerable loss from hail in various parts of the West, the largest area being on the Arcola branch of the Canadian Pacific Railway, near the eastern boundary of Saskatchewan.

"Although the results of the season are somewhat disappointing, they establish beyond question the position of the prairie West as a grain-growing country. In speaking of the West there is a tendency to unduly generalize. While there is a great similarity in soil, climate, and season throughout the prairies, there are local differences sufficiently marked that, with all sections of the region contributing to production, a crop failure throughout is practically impossible. So slight a variation of climatic conditions makes the difference between success and failure of the wheat crop that it is inconceivable that the same unfavourable variation should occur throughout such a vast extent as that of the prairie West. Or supposing such a thing possible, there are sufficient variations of soil, rainfall, and conditions of farming that any ordinary lowering of temperature or change of other conditions cannot possibly have the same result in all parts. And again, where usual conditions have been ascertained to be unfavourable for spring wheat they are generally found to be most favourable

for fall wheat on the one hand or for oats and barley on the other, while in all parts and under all circumstances where water is readily available live stock, properly cared for, is a sure money maker.

"While there has been a cessation of expansion in prices of farm lands and town lots, there has been no such falling off in land values or in mercantile business as was so generally looked for. Trade is good, and all interests which depended on legitimate trade are prosperous.

"The fuel situation seems to be much better than at this time last year. The shipping mines have been running steadily during the summer. The number of mines in operation remains about the same, but active work is in progress on several new mines of both domestic and railway coal. There are no indications of labour trouble in the western mines for the coming winter, and the supply of coal at Fort William and Port Arthur, upon which Manitoba chiefly depends, is large and being steadily increased. While the fuel situation is not absolutely secure, should there be a season like last winter, under any but the most extraordinary circumstances there is every reason for confidence.

The homestead entries for the year ending June 30, 1907, totalled 32,000, the largest number in any year, except the previous one, ending June 30, 1906, when the total was over 41,000, or nearly 10,000 more.

"In considering the fact that the number of homestead entries was smaller during the past year than in the previous one it is worth remembering that during the previous year the privilege of proxy entry existed and was largely availed of, while during the year ending June 30th last entries could only be made in person. A regulation is again in force which permits proxy entry by a direct member of the family for any other member of the family entitled to take up a homestead."

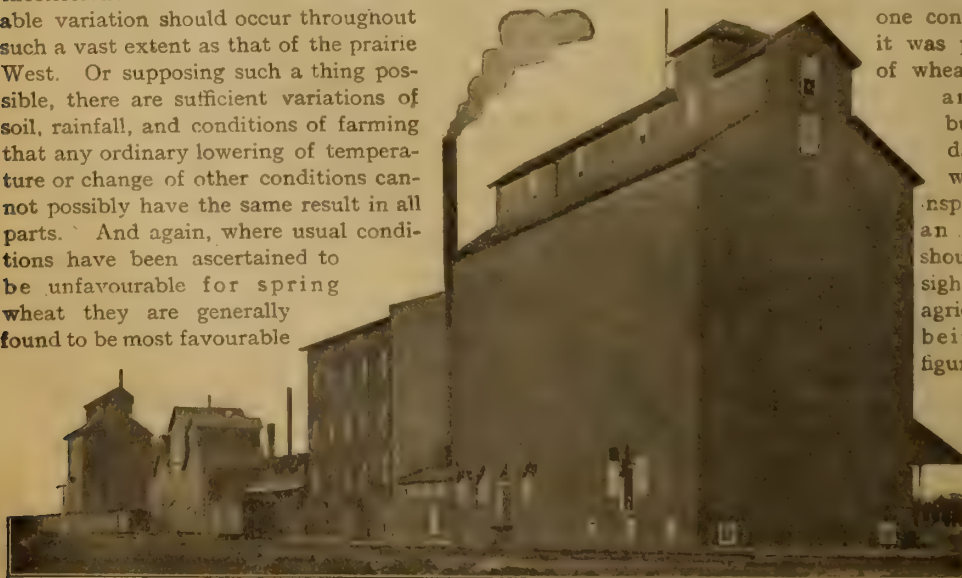
The Opinion Of A Leading Canadian Newspaper.

A correspondent of the **TORONTO GLOBE** writes concerning the conditions of 1907 as follows:

"The reports from far and near show that the aggregate yield for the whole grain-growing country is likely to be large, and there are those who assert that the quantity will be equal to about 75 per cent of that secured last season. The quality will be the important consideration, especially in view of the steadily rising markets. The farmers have been looking for the day when dollar wheat would rule, and they have it now.

The new wheat is grading very high, when one considers the conditions under which it was produced. Over 300,000 bushels of wheat, which would bring the farmer an average of about \$1.00 per bushel, reached Winnipeg in two days. The significance of \$300,000 worth of wheat being passed by the inspectors in two days at the close of an admittedly unfavourable season should not be allowed to sink out of sight at a time when returns from an agricultural activity in the West are being anxiously awaited. These figures do not take account of the lower grades, of which there were 131 cars. More than one-third of these contained milling wheat, which would remunerate the farmer at the rate of 93 cents per bushel.

"The approximate value of



Flour Mill and Elevator, Portage la Prairie, Manitoba.

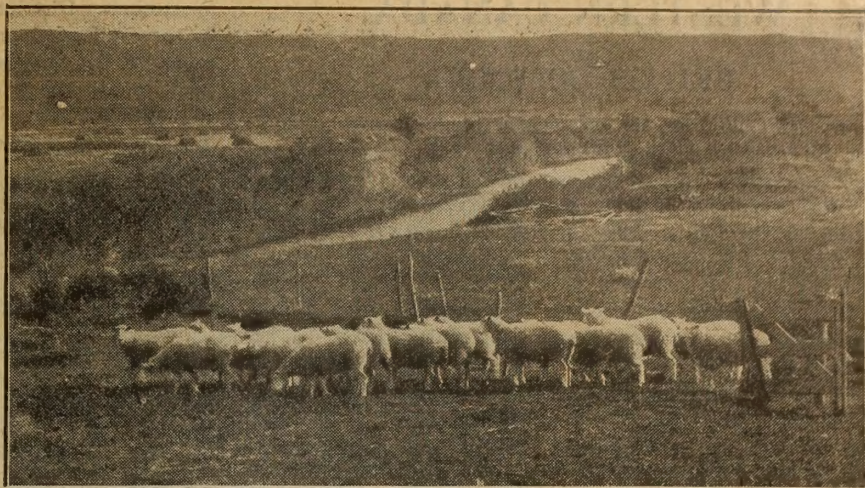
the two days' receipts of wheat would be more than \$400,000. The circulation of \$200,000 per day among the farmers will not continue for the whole year, of course, but that figure is likely to be exceeded before the present rush of wheat to the market abates. The conversion of the crop into money may be said to be proceeding satisfactorily, and there is no doubt that millions of dollars will have gone into the pockets of the farmers by the time navigation on the lakes closes. Even then only a small proportion of the wheat will have come out.

"On the whole, the prospect is a most cheerful one. The fact that wheat of any kind is bound to bring a remunerative price this season is the comforting feature of the situation, and there is no occasion for concern over the possibility of the general quality of the grain being below that of previous years. The high standard of the wheat raised in the West in 1905 and 1906 was undoubtedly a great advertisement for the country, and it would have been well if that excellent record could have been continued, but it is not reasonable to expect that 90 per cent of the wheat will be of contract grade every year as it was in the years mentioned. If 75 per cent, or even 50 per cent, of this season's yield be up to the contract standard, there will be room for congratulation. The West will reap as large return of its investment of money, time, and labour this year as it did in any preceding season, and by so doing it will have done its whole duty to those who have placed faith in its fertility and resourcefulness. The breathing spell, if it comes, will enable the transportation companies and other elements in the trade of the country to catch up with some of their obligations, and the improvements effected by that means will more than offset any inconvenience which will result from a relatively smaller production."

OPINIONS OF FINANCIAL MEN.

Those who have the handling of money for investment purposes are very careful before they give expression to their opinions. It will, therefore, be of interest to read the following, extracted from an interview:

Senator George A. Cox of Toronto, after a six weeks' trip throughout the western provinces, said that during the twenty-five years that he has made periodical visits to the Pacific Coast, upon no previous occasion has he been so favourably impressed with the future prospects of the western provinces. "It is three years since my last visit, and I was surprised and delighted by the great improvement that has taken place during that time." (His visit now was largely in the interest of the Toronto Savings & Loan Company and the Canada Life Assurance Company, for the purpose of looking into their investments in the West.) "The Canada Life Assurance Company has now about \$7,000,000 in mortgage loans and municipal debentures invested there. I am more than ever convinced that it affords a safe and profitable field in which to loan money, and I shall recommend the directors to largely increase their loans in that direction. It is true that the results of the present harvest will in some localities, and in some respects, be disappointing, but in many localities the crops are highly satisfactory, both as to quantity and quality, and when it is taken



The Sheep Industry of Central Canada is Assuming Vast Proportions.

into consideration that even the lowest grades this year are selling at a higher price than the best grades last year, it is quite safe to say that the farmers of the West will have quite as large cash returns from this year's crop as they had last season. The railway companies are much better equipped for the movement of this year's crop than they were last year. Both the Canadian Pacific and the Canadian Northern have made large additions to their rolling stock, and in other respects greatly improved their lines, and before another year's crop has to be moved, the Grand Trunk Pacific trains will be running between Edmonton and Fort William."

At the time of writing, it is difficult to determine exactly the quantity of wheat that Central Canada will market this year. The threshers' returns will tell the story. Opinions of experts may well be taken in the meantime. Frank O. Fowler, Secretary of the Grain Exchange, Winnipeg, wires: "Expect 70,000,000 bushels wheat, 40,000,000 bushels of it good milling. The crop will realize more money than last year; wheat and barley are 50 cents higher, and flax 25 cents higher."

Ottawa, Ont., October 15—"Mr. John Byrne of the Department of Trade and Commerce has just returned to Ottawa, after an examination of the crops in the West, estimates the yield of wheat at 83,000,000. Last year it was 94,000,000, or 11,000,000 bushels greater than Mr. Byrne's estimate of the yield this season. An indication of the lateness of the season is found at Fort William, where September arrivals amounted to only 351,984 bushels this year against 4 million bushels last year. There are compensation features. The price of wheat is higher than a year ago, and the late season compelled the sowing of more barley and the enforcement of the pure food laws in the United States has increased the market price for this to the farmer. The increased demand for fodder will result in the frosted grain commanding a good price for feed, probably as good a price as No. 2 northern wheat brought last year.

Mr. George Burn, General Manager of the Bank of Ottawa, who has just returned to Ottawa from a tour of inspection of the bank's branches in Manitoba and the Northwest, says: "From observation and enquiry I think the estimate of a three-fourths crop is about correct. There have been serious individual losses, but to offset these there is enhanced quality where the wheat was untouched by frost. On the whole, taking into consideration the increased price of wheat, the money coming into the country will equal the income of last year."

WESTERN CANADA.

BRITISH COLUMBIA.

British Columbia, the western or Pacific province, contains an area of about 240,000,000 acres, 10,000,000 of which are arable, and 10 per cent of the remainder suitable for cattle ranching or fruit growing. It lies in the same latitude as the British Isles, Northern Germany, Denmark, and Sweden. It is a country of splendid valleys, rivers, and lakes.

Climate. Pure air, freedom from malaria, and almost total absence of extremes of heat and cold make it one of the healthiest countries in the world. The climate is similar to European countries lying within the temperate zone. In the Kootenay district the air is rarefied and bracing. There is sufficient precipitation. In summer the heat is 80 or 90 degrees in the shade, but the nights are cool. In winter the mercury seldom falls below zero. Throughout the interior plateau, the precipitation is from seven to twelve inches, according to locality. Luxuriant vegetation is confined to the borders of lakes and water courses. Ample crops in the valleys are the result of careful cultivation—irrigated lands produce wonderfully.

The climate resembles that of Central Europe. The valleys cutting the Coast Range have distinct climatic peculiarities. Sheltered from north winds, with the sun's rays concentrated on the side-hills, even on the higher benches orchards and vineyards yield well. When the Pacific littoral is reached, conditions change. Where vegetation has been left in its virgin state there rise huge forests of fir, pine, and

spruce, produced by the heavy rainfall, which increases towards the north. The winters are short and temperate. A part of the northern interior has a more severe climate, caused by the higher altitude, but it is moderate as compared with that of Central Russia, lying within the same latitude. The portion of the Peace River Valley within the Province enjoys a mild climate. From the middle of April until the first week in November, the ground is fit for the plough. Short winters are enjoyed.

Resources. The resources of the Province are agriculture in many branches, fishing, mining, and lumbering. The discovery of gold in 1854 first attracted attention to the Province. The exhaustion of the placer gold mines was followed by the discovery of silver, copper, lead, gold, zinc, and coal.

Agriculture. There are rich assets in the arable and pastoral lands. The extent of the fertile lands may be placed at one million acres, but this will be found far below the actual area capable of cultivation when the country has been thoroughly explored. West of the Coast Range are tracts of rich, arable land, notably the lower Fraser Valley,

Westminster District, Vancouver Island, and adjacent islands in the Gulf of Georgia. These are fairly well settled, but much of the land is still wild and untilled. North of the main line of the Canadian Pacific, on the Pacific slope, are 6½ million acres of agricultural and grazing lands. There is a splendid market for every product of the farm and orchard. Southern British Columbia is the finest fruit country on the continent, producing fruit in abundance and of superior quality. In 1891 the total orchard area was 6,431 acres; in 1901 it had only increased to 7,430 acres, but between that and 1904 the total was raised to 13,430, and in 1905 to 29,000 acres.

His Excellency Earl Grey, Governor General of Canada, in his reply to an address said: "Thousands of families of refinement, culture, and distinction, such as you would welcome, living in England today, would be only too glad to come out and occupy a log hut on five acres of pear or apple orchard in full bearing, if they could do so at a reasonable cost."

There is a local demand for butter. There is plenty of good water and luxuriant and nutritious grasses. In cattle raising the tendency is for smaller herds and the improvement of stock.

Sheep raising is capable of great expansion. Much attention is being given to raising hogs. The prices for heavy draught and working horses are increasing. Poultry raising is receiving special attention. Wheat, barley, oats, potatoes, turnips, carrots, mangolds, and all other roots and hops grow splendidly. Attention has been given to sugar-beets, tobacco, and celery.

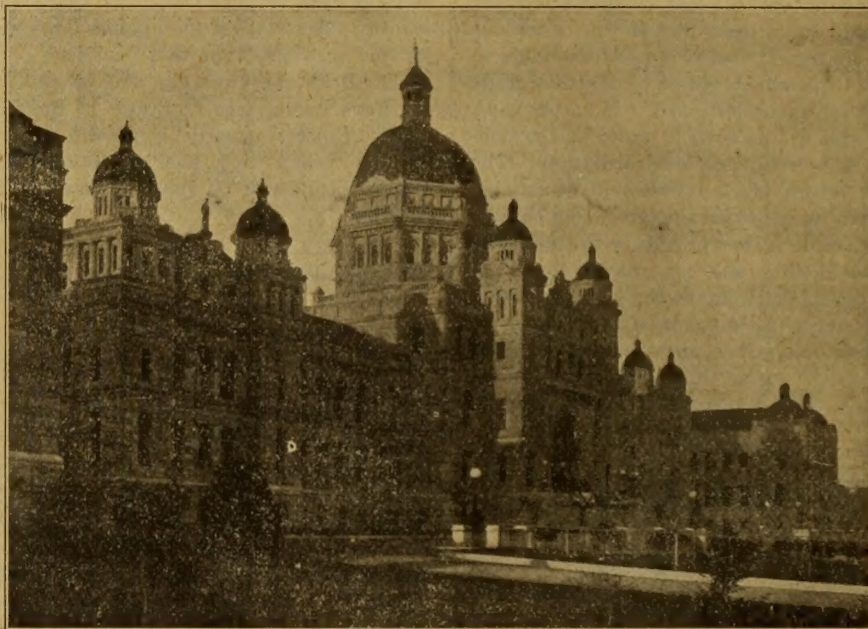
Diversified Farming. The advantages of diversified

farming over special farming are many and important, and there is scarcely a district in British Columbia in which diversified farming may not be carried on more profitably than any special branch of the industry. Irrigation, though far from general, has already wrought a change in agricultural methods in those districts in which it has been introduced.

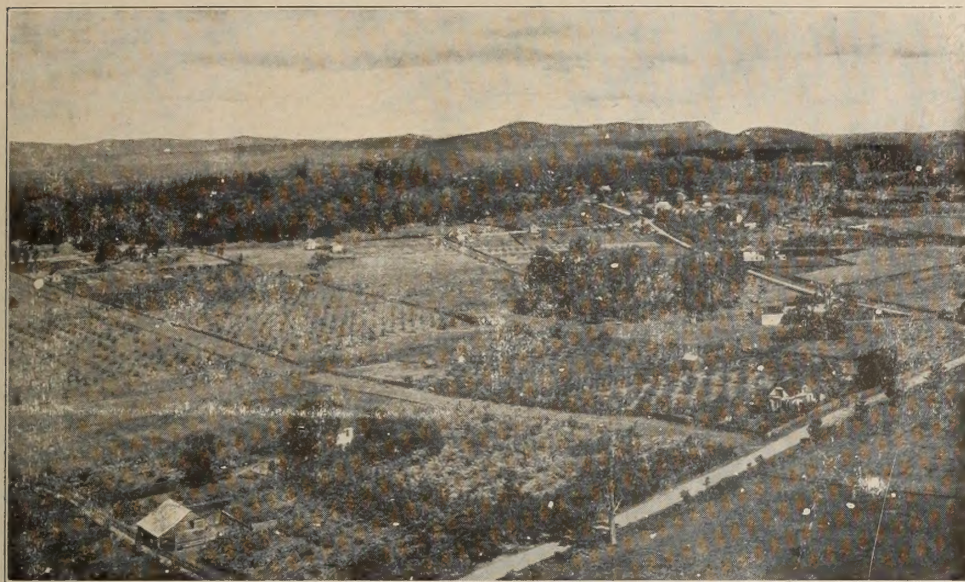
Scenic Beauty. Favoured in natural resources and with an unrivalled climate, the scenic attractions are varied and grand. Game of all kinds is plentiful. Salmon, trout, and grayling fishing may be enjoyed.

Railways and Steamships. Railways comprise portions of the main line and branches of the Canadian Pacific and Great Northern. On the lakes and rivers there are first-class steamers. There is a line of steamers between Vancouver, Japan, and China, and another between Vancouver and Australia, as well as a coasting fleet, having direct connection with Yukon and Alaska. The harbours are open all year.

Cities and Trade Centres. Victoria, the capital (popula-



Parliament Building, Victoria, British Columbia.



Valley Farming in British Columbia.

tion 1901, 21,000), is the second seaport of the Dominion and is the headquarters of the Canadian fur-sealing fleet. In climate and other surroundings it is like many towns in Great Britain. It is a little south of the latitude of Paris. Esquimalt is a fine land-locked harbour, strongly fortified, and garrisoned by the Dominion Government. Vancouver, the largest city of the Province, is one of the best deep-water harbours on the coast. Its population in 1901 was 26,193. The figures are now placed at over 60,000. New Westminster is one of the oldest settlements. Nanaimo is an important coal-mining town and naval coal station. Ladysmith is a growing place. Kamloops is the centre of supply for a large mining and grazing district. Other thriving towns are Rossland, Nelson, Kaslo, Sandon, Fernie, Grand Forks, Trail, Cranbrook, Yale, Vernon, Armstrong, Field, Revelstoke, Sicamous, Golden, and Donald. Port Simpson is a fine harbour and a Hudson Bay Company post. Prince Rupert, on Kaien Island, will be the Pacific terminus of the Grand Trunk Pacific. This road will bring into value immense resources of farm, forest, and mine.

Education. Schools are free and non-sectarian. The expenditure for educational purposes amounts to nearly \$500,000 annually. The Government builds a schoolhouse, makes a grant for incidental expenses, and pays a teacher in every district where twenty children between the ages of six and sixteen can be brought together. High schools, where classics and higher mathematics are taught, are established in cities.

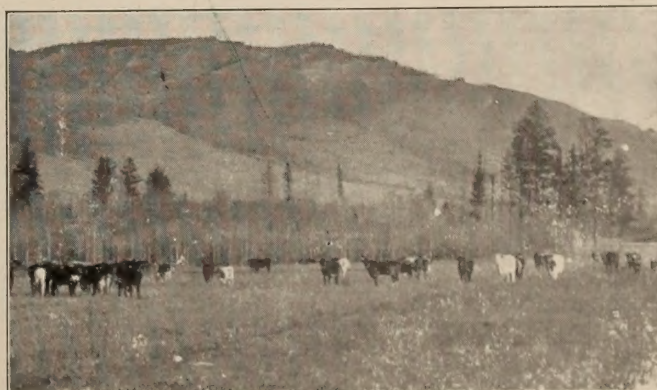
Dominion Government Lands. All the lands within twenty miles on each side of the Canadian Pacific main line belong to the Dominion of Canada, with all the timber and minerals they contain (except precious metals). This tract is administered by the Interior Department of Canada, practically according to the same laws and homestead regulations as the public lands in Central Canada. Government agencies are established at Kamloops and New Westminster.

Prices of Land. Apart from the government and railway lands, there is a great deal of desirable land owned by companies and individuals, the price of which varies with locality, quality of soil, and cost of clearing or irrigation.

Provincial Government Lands. Crown lands, where such a system is practicable, are laid off and surveyed into townships, containing thirty-six sections of one mile square in each. Any person, being the head of a family, a widow, or single man over the age of eighteen years, and being a British subject, or any alien, upon his making a declaration of his intention to become a British subject, may, for agricultural purposes, record any tract of unoccupied and unreserved crown lands (not being an Indian settlement) not exceeding 320 acres in extent, in that portion of the Province

situated to the northward and eastward of the Cascades or Coast Range of Mountains, and 160 acres in extent in the rest of the Province. The fee on recording is \$2.00. After complying with certain regulations, the settler makes a further payment of a fee of \$2.00. After obtaining the certificate of improvement and paying for the land, the settler is entitled to a crown grant in fee simple. He pays \$10 therefor. The price of Crown lands pre-empted is \$1.00 per acre, which must be paid in four equal instalments. Crown lands may be purchased to the extent of 640 acres, and for this purpose are classified as first, second, and third class, according to the report of the surveyor. It has not, however, been the policy of the Government for some time past to sell lands, except when required for special purposes. First-class lands are those suitable for agricultural purposes or capable of profitable cultivation, or wild hay meadow lands, the minimum price of which is \$5.00 per acre. Second-class are those requiring irrigation, and do not contain timber valuable for lumbering, except as specially defined. These are \$2.50 an acre. Mountainous and rocky tracts, unfit for agricultural purposes and only fit for pasture are third class and \$1.00 an acre.

For detailed description of the various agricultural districts, apply to the Secretary Provincial Bureau of Information, Victoria, B.C.



Cattle Scene, Coldstream, Vernon, B.C.



**DOMINION OF CANADA
AND
NEWFOUNDLAND**

SCALE OF MILES
0 50 100 200 300 400 500
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Longitude West 40° from Greenwich